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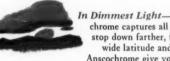
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THE PRO USES MUCH 35MM EQUIPMENT by Ted Russell THE AMATEUR MUST DO WITH LESS. CONTAFLEX IV: HOW GOOD IS IT? by Martin S. Dworkin CLOSE IN FOR DANCE: Jesse A. Fernandez photographs the flamenco by Marjorie Thompson ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8'S by Norman Rothschild 35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them by Jacquelyn Balish ROLLEI Va: 5 CAMERAS IN ONE LEICA HIG: THE SHAPE IS FAMILIAR, BUT by Ted Russell MOVIES STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matekin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOT CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricis Caulfield MONTHLY CONTEST	WHAT'S THE STATE OF PRISM REFLEXES?	
THE AMATEUR MUST DO WITH LESS CONTAFLEX IV: HOW GOOD IS IT? by Martin S. Dworkin CLOSE IN FOR DANCE: Jesse A. Fernandez photographs the flamenco by Marjorie Thompson ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8'S by Norman Rothschild 35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them by Jacquelyn Balish ROLLEI VA: 5 CAMERAS IN ONE LEICA IIIg: THE SHAPE IS FAMILIAR, BUT by Ted Russell MOVIES STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM. NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOY: CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		44
CONTAFLEX IV: HOW GOOD IS IT? by Martin S. Dworkin CLOSE IN FOR DANCE: Jesse A. Fernandez photographs the flamenco by Marjorie Thompson ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8's by Norman Rothschild 35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them by Jacquelyn Balish ROLLEI Va: 5 CAMERAS IN ONE LEICA HIG: THE SHAPE IS FAMILIAR, BUT by Ted Russell WOVIES STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOr' CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		52
CLOSE IN FOR DANCE: Jesse A, Fernandez photographs the flamenco by Marjorie Thompson ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8's by Norman Rothschild 35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them	THE AMATEUR MUST DO WITH LESS	53
by Marjorie Thompson ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8's by Norman Rothschild 35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them		54
35MM PICTURE SECTION: 14 pages of picture problems and the techniques that were used to solve them	by Marjorie Thompson	56
niques that were used to solve them	ENTER A NEW CLASS OF CAMERAS: THE F/2.8'S by Norman Rothschild	60
MOVIES STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALO? CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		62
MOVIES STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALO? CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	ROLLEI Va: 5 CAMERAS IN ONE	76
STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green by Products THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		96
STILL PICTURES MOVE: Live action and still pictures are combined in "The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green by Products THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		
"The Naked Eye," a film on photography by Myron A. Matzkin THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM	MOVIES	
NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	"The Naked Eye," a film on photographyby Myron A. Matzkin	84
NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM The Camex features throughthe-lens focusing and viewing by David S. Green DEPARTMENTS COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	THE EMEL—FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM	86
COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		
COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	the-lens focusing and viewingby David S. Green	87
COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	DEPARTMENTS	
NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	DET ARTHUR TO	
NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	COFFEE BREAK WITH THE EDITORS	10
NEW PRODUCTS THE LARGE CAMERA: A new look at an old camera size, the 4 x 5 by Andreas Feininger WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargers by Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	14
WAYS AND MEANS: Hot weather processing, a new lens, nitrogen burst agitation, and a new light source for enlargersby Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land camerasby John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handleby Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDARby Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDARby Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented?by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGELby Patricia Caulfield		16
agitation, and a new light source for enlargersby Arthur Rothstein PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land camerasby John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handleby Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abatedby Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented?by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGELby Patricia Caulfield		20
PICTURES IN A MINUTE: There is a new exposure control system for all Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		
Polaroid Land cameras by John Wolbarst MODERN COLOR: Improved negative color materials are versatile and easy to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOF CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		24
to handle by Norman Rothschild SALOI' CALENDAR WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield	Polaroid Land camerasby John Wolbarst	28
WHAT'S AHEAD? The technical curiosity of amateur photographers has not abated by Lloyd E. Varden CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGEL by Patricia Caulfield		34
not abated	SALOT' CALENDAR	35
DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGELby Patricia Caulfield		36
	CAMERA CLUBS: Is your club over-regimented? by Mabel Scacheri	42
MONTHLY CONTEST	DISCOVERY NO. 26: HAL SIEGELby Patricia Caulfield	78
	MONTHLY CONTEST	80

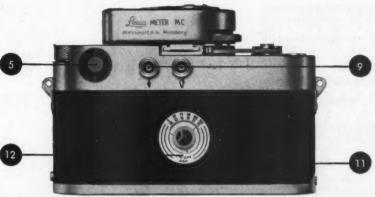
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AUGUST, 1957

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9



Coffee Break with the Editors

THIS MONTH'S COVER . . .

The pretty miss peering through the transparency mask is Diane Allen, who has graced the pages of Modern in the past. Photographer Hal Reiff made the shot on 4×5 Ektachrome film in a Speed Graphic equipped with a 152mm Ektar lens. He used electronic flash rated at 2000 watt-seconds, with the lens aperture set at f/11.

A VISIT . . .

We sat on the edge of the chair, adjusted our eyes and mind to the evepiece of the microscope, and entered the micro-biological world of photographer-scientist Roman Vishniac. Curious rhomboid creatures apparently wearing dark green goggles dashed about gleefully amid a fantastic nevernever world of vari-colored jungle plant life. We were observing one tiny area in a sample of pond water that Dr. Vishniac had brought home to his apartment. In it, all but invisible, lived the tiny creatures that inhabit his photo landscapes, provide his action shots, pose candidly for their portraits, play the star roles in his motion pictures. We had come to see if such photography was feasible for the average MODERN reader.

The sixtyish-year-old scientist rejects the more deadly forms of formal micro-biological portraiture which require a dead or nearly dead specimen. "What can you learn of normal behavior from a half-dead creature? How would you feel if someone stuck a cover glass on you? To study these creatures you must treat them with respect, photograph them as they live by keeping them in open containers," he concluded.

Vishniac offered a specimen container for examination. "They are specially made for me. Each costs about \$56. The usual petri dish is just not optically perfect enough for good photography."

Our host waved an arm toward some of his collection of 22 microscopes and indicated his favorite light source—a special carbon arc. "Replacement bulbs cost me about \$500 a year," he observed rather sadly. Our eyes roamed over his other photo equipment. A Hasselblad on a vertical standard sturdy enough to support the Statue of Liberty. A specially modified Arriflex professional 16mm motion picture camera. A Leica poised over another microscope. Vishniac observed that at last count this collection was valued at \$20,000. (Cont. on page 12)

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COFFEE BREAK

(Continued from page 10)

Duly impressed, we sat fascinated through an incredible color film in which an amoeba seemed as real, personable and full of animation as our favorite seal in the Central Park Zoo. We gaped at the private lives of spirochetes enlarged 40,000 times to crystalline clearness on the motion picture screen. The shapes and colors were so perfectly integrated that you might attribute the whole effect to some artist producing abstract paintings in motion. The lights came on. We commiserated with Dr. Vishniac over the scarcity of magazines in which to show his work and suggested that perhaps a MODERN reader or two would evince enough interest to allow us a return visit to his land beyond. We then crept out into the starry night wondering who up there might be observing us with his own special microscope-without cover glass, we hope.

A FISH LIST . . .

This is the time of the year when photographers think weird thoughts—like taking impossible trips to exotic places never before photographed by man. In the last few years a new thought has been permeating some of the photographic minds we know.

Some of Modern's editors have been bitten by the underwater bug—and have been looking with longing at the latest underwater camera housings. You no longer need to own gilt-edged stock in a successful gold mine to buy a unit. Prices range from comparatively very little to very expensive, however. Some of the newer units in the low-priced class are quite advanced and are really practical. If you've been thinking about getting yourself wet while keeping your camera dry, write for the Modern list of underwater housings: Underwater Photography Editor, Modern Photography, 33 W. 60 St., New York 23, N. Y.

COMING NEXT MONTH . . .

MODERN's editors feel that just showing good photographs isn't enough. If they are going to have real value to the reader, there must be a whole raft of information on how they were made what techniques were used, and what could be done with the same subject in another way. Each photograph should represent a distinct picturetaking lesson. And that's the kind of issue we have planned for September. If you are in search of photographic inspiration, or have the inspiration but not the precise technique for a particular kind of outdoor shot, don't miss MODERN's great picture-taking September issue. It will be crammed to the seams with more than 100 photo ideas you can put to use right now.



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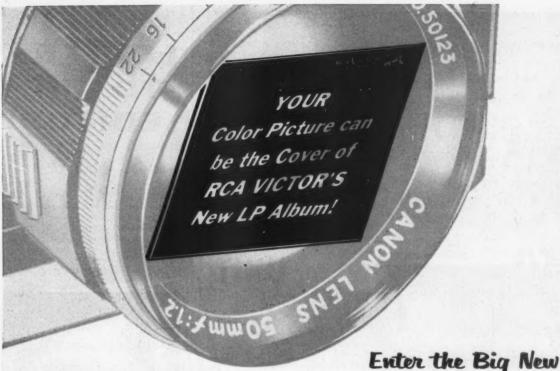
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Closest

Sirg .

Your magazine is a most welcome addition to the range on sale in this country. I find its scope wide, its freshness stimulating, and it is such a friendly magazine, although practical.

As a comparative newcomer and amateur, I have no particular subjects which I prefer above all others.



Having, however, a young family, I naturally end up taking a goodly number of shots of the children.

As a result, I feel more and more sure that one of the most important things in this type of work is to get close! Not just near, but really on top of the subject. Many experienced photographers seem to condemn this, but for me, at any rate, it produces more pleasing results than any other method. Perhaps it is laziness and saves my wondering what to do with a tangle of arms and legs, but it certainly brings the extra worry of more careful focusing. Again, possibly, I am lucky since my children ignore a camera pushed under their noses and are tolerant

This picture was taken with a Rolleiflex on a dull, rainy day inside the house near a window as Michael watched raindrops. Exposure, f/4 and 1/10 sec. on Kodak Super-XX film, developed in Promicrol.

Ayr, Scotland Derek T. Blamires



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an educator-photographer, successfully contributing to leading magazines and newspapers, won third place in the Western Division of PSA's Color Travel Lecture. She writes: "I took the entire NYI course by correspondence and have since received constant help, excellent suggestions, criticisms, and encouragement for my work."

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(Continued on page 18)



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NEW PRODUCTS

(Continued from page 16)

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consisting of two large optical lenses magnifies the image 4X. The Opta-Vue can be adapted to individual viewing or large audience showing. A rheostat controls light, compensates for over or underexposed slides. The unit operates on 110-volt AC, uses two tru-white miniature bulbs, and has a built-in transformer system. Vents prevent overheating, according to the manufacturer. The slide carrier locks in position. The viewer is styled in two-tone blue and trimmed in gilt. The Opta-Vue can also accommodate 35mm slides. Price, \$19.95. For additional information, write: OPTICS MFG. CORP. OPTICS MFG. CORP.

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(Continued on page 115)

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the LARGE CAMERA

by ANDREAS FEININGER

Staff Photographer for Life Magazine

Rediscovering the 4 x 5: a new look at an old and versatile camera size.



The editors of MODERN PHOTOGRAPHY have asked me to write a monthly column specifically devoted to the problems and potentialities of the large camera. Since I use the 4 x 5 for most of

my photographic work, this is a pleasant task because it gives me a chance to talk about a subject to which I am devoted, to an audience which, at least potentially, shares my interest and might profit from my experience.

The "all-purpose" camera

Time and again, in their advertisements, camera manufacturers tell us that a certain camera is so universal in concept that it can serve as the basis of a "system" that will permit the photographer to do "everything," being equally well suited to fields as diverse as portraiture, documentary reporting, architectural photography, telephotography, photomicroscopy, etc. Such sweeping claims are usually backed up by well-printed brochures containing a number of small reproductions of photographs of, for example, a girl, an insect, a flower, a landscape, an interior, a microslide, etc., as "proof" of the vast range of subjects that that camera is capable of rendering "to perfection." Though this promotion may appear very convincing, especially to the inexperienced, it is, unfortunately, so much boloney.

A camera—any camera—is merely a tool, a tool for making photographs. And anyone who is familiar with tools of any kind knows that there is no such thing as a universal tool that will do "everything." As a matter of fact, the higher the requirements in any craft, the larger the number of special tools needed—tools designed to do a single operation particularly well, and nothing else. The few "universal" or combination tools that exist generally perform a limited number of operations reasonably well, yet excel in none of them.

Basically, this also applies to the picture maker's tool, the camera. Not-withstanding all the manufacturers' claims, there are no true "universal"

cameras. A 35mm camera is a tool that is as highly specialized in one way as a 4 x 5 is in another. I will elaborate on this later. But first we must discuss the reason why there are so many different cameras and film sizes.

The larger, the better

I don't believe that anyone will quarrel with me if I say that, potentially, with the exception of slides for projection, the larger the size of the negative or color transparency, the more technically perfect the picture will be. Practically, this means that the "best" camera is always the largest film-size camera that can be used to do a perfect job. Of course, practical considerations constantly restrict the size of a camera. Mountain climbers can carry only a limited amount of weight and bulk and so are forced to choose small cameras even though they realize that larger film sizes would produce better pictures.

To take candid photographs of people, a camera must necessarily be inconspicuous and fast. For this reason, a 35mm camera is used for the great majority of documentary pictures, although the result is that such photographs are generally more fuzzy and grainy than if they had been made with a larger camera.

However, there are many instances where no practical restrictions exist and where the permissible size of the film is related only to the determination of the photographer to get the best possible picture quality. The more devoted he is to such technical perfection, the larger film size he will choose. The extreme is reached in men like Edward Weston and Ansel Adams, whose favorite camera is the 8 x 10. As we all know, their pictures represent the ultimate in quality.

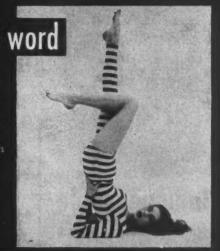
Film size and picture quality

There are two main reasons why large negatives can produce pictures of higher technical quality than small film frames: film emulsion grain, and resolving power of the lens. Nowadays, very few photographers are satisfied with contact prints—most enlarge their worthwhile pictures. But the higher the degree of enlargement, the more the negative grain is magnified, and the higher the demands on the resolving power of the lens. Now, simple arithmetic tells us that if we want to make an 11 x 14 print we must enlarge a 35mm negative approximately 11½ times linear, whereas a

(Continued on page 22)



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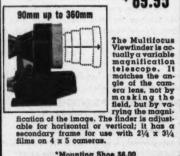
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THE LARGE CAMERA

(Continued from page 20)

4 x 5 negative needs to be magnified only 2% times. This is the reason for the fuzzy graininess of so many minature camera picture enlargements, and the almost universal crispness of wellexposed photographs taken with the 4 x 5.

A reasonable compromise

Modern cameras are available from 16mm subminiature size up to 8 x 10 and even 11 x 14 inches. At the moment, the trend is toward 35mm cameras. They are small, light, easy to carry; cost per film frame is very low; they are eminently suitable for taking color slides for projection and candid photographs of people; also, they have had much publicity because many of our most famous photojournalists— Cartier-Bresson, Eisenstaedt, Mc-Combe, Sochurek, Stackpole, W. Eugene Smith, and others-work almost exclusively with 35mm cameras (and photograph almost exclusively people!). These are very good reasons indeed for the popularity of the 35mm

Near the opposite end of the size scale we find the 8 x 10 camera given equal prestige through the work of the Westons, father and sons, and Ansel Adams.

And half way between these extremes we have the 4 x 5.

Pro and con

In my opinion, based upon considerable experience gained from more than 15 years of work for Life magazine, the 4 x 5 combines to a surprisingly high degree some of the best advantages of the 35mm and the 8 x 10. On one hand, a 4 x 5 is still small and light enough so that it can be carried without too much discomfort: on the other hand, its technical potential is so outstanding that for most practical purposes blow-ups from 4 x 5 negatives are indistinguishable from pictures made with the 8 x 10. In this respect, the difference between a 4 x 5 and an 8 x 10 is quite similar to that which exists between a very good phonograph and a hi-fi set: it is so small, and achieved at such a disproportionately high cost, that it is worthwhile only to the most fanatic aficionado.

However, in spite of all its outstanding qualities, like any camera, the 4 x 5 is only a tool, and like any tool. its use is also restricted by the very qualities that make it useful. And although the 4 x 5 probably is more versatile than any other size or type of camera, there are photographic tasks for which it is unsuited, notwithstanding the claims of certain manufacturers: we all know that in a pinch a chisel can be used as a screwdriver. and vice versa, although the proper tool will always do a better job. It will be the subject of my next column to show what the 4 x 5 can not do, and also what it can do particularly well.

THE END



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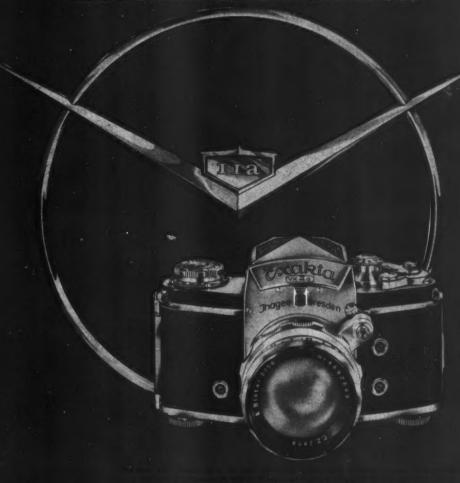




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WAYS and MEANS

by ARTHUR ROTHSTEIN

Technical Director of Photography, Look Magazine

Hot weather processing; an ultra high speed lens; nitrogen burst agitation; and a new light source for enlargers.



In these days of air conditioners and refrigerated water, the problem of processing in hot weather does not plague the photographer so often as it once did-but, on occasion, it can still

be a problem, especially when the photographer is traveling or vacationing in the tropics. I can remember a sad experience, too, in the summer heat of central Texas, when I watched with horror as the emulsion slowly washed off my film!

The problems created by high temperatures are the excessive swelling of the gelatin emulsion, resulting in reticulation, and the creation of fog, which may become objectionable.

The latter can be corrected by adding potassium bromide to the developer. However, this also has an inhibiting effect on the time of development a desirable feature which counteracts the acceleration produced by heat. Developing times will increase by a factor of 1.75 for every 10° F rise in temperature above normal.

The swelling of the emulsion and resultant reticulation may be minimized by maintaining all processing solutions at the same temperature. These should be as close as possible to room temperature. The rapid expansion and contraction of the emulsion caused by the varying temperatures of solutions and air is responsible for most difficulties during hot weather. Much of the graininess found in films developed during warm weather is actually a mild form of reticulation.

It is important to develop exposed film promptly when temperatures are high. There is a definite fading of the latent image under the combined influences of high temperature and humidity. This will result in a noticeable loss of shadow detail and a gradual deterioration of the image.

One of the most useful chemicals for these trying times is sodium sulfate (not sulfite), known also as Glauber's salt. When added to developers, and in stop baths, sodium sulfate has the effect of inhibiting the swelling of the gelatin emulsion. For example, 31/2 oz. of sodium sulfate, dessicated, added to a quart of D-76, makes it possible to use the developer at 90° F.

After development, a three-minute hardening stop bath consisting of 2 oz. of sodium sulfate and 1 oz. of potassium chrome alum to a quart of water is effective up to 90° F.

A fresh acid hardening fixer should follow. Washing is usually shorter than normal in warm water-about 10 minutes is adequate. Longer washing can cause trouble. The film should then be dried in a current of clean warm air.

For excessively high temperatures above 90° F, a prehardening bath should be used. This may be made by adding 6 oz. of sodium sulfate and 1 oz. of 40 percent formaldehyde to a quart of water. After placing the film in the solution for three minutes, it is rinsed and developed in the normal wav.

procedures may eliminate These some of the headaches associated with hot weather processing.

Ultra high speed lens

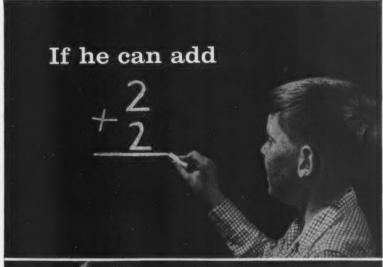
A major step forward in lens design has been made by the Farrand Optical Co., Bronx Blvd. and E. 238 St., N. Y. 70, N. Y. They have produced an ultra high speed objective, the Super Farron

f/0.87 lens, in a 76mm focal length.
Although lenses of greater maximum aperature have been manufactured—for example, Kodak's f/0.75 Fluoro-Ektar-this is the first such objective to be capable of totally covering a 24 x 36mm negative, making it suitable for 35mm still and motion picture photography, and for use with the Image Orthicon in television cameras. Its full field of coverage is 40mm.

A point often overlooked by both photographers and optical designers is the fact that ultra high speed lenses are used mainly in dimly illuminated areas-and that image contrasts will be low. The ultra high speed objective, therefore, must maintain the smallest possible circle of confusion for each point in the image. This is achieved by high correction of aberrations.

Previous ultra high speed designs showed heavy chromatic aberrations and were made mainly for the photography of fluoroscopic screens. They were thus unusable for photography with the normal visual spectrum. This lens maintains unusually high correction, over a broad spectral range, of all aberrations in a field of 30°. Resolution is also unusually high, averaging better than 40 lines per mm for the 30° field. The Super Farron f/0.87

(Continued on page 26)





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WAYS AND MEANS

(Continued from page 25)

ultra high speed lens is obtainable in a focusing mount for \$4,500.

Nitrogen burst agitation

The importance of agitation in film processing is especially evident now that so many photographers are processing their own color. Streaks and density variations which might not be apparent in black-and-white show up more prominently in color. Many mechanical devices exist for agitation of film and prints, but the most modern approach is that of nitrogen burst agitation.

This method provides for the release in the solution of inert nitrogen gas in small bursts of a few seconds duration, with set intervals between bursts. The nitrogen bubbles agitate the solution against the film, in contrast to mechanical methods of agitating the film against the solution.

Nitrogen gas is relatively inexpensive, non-explosive, inert, and cannot affect the solutions, film, or processing equipment.

Complete equipment for this modern method of processing is available from the Calumet Manufacturing Co., 6550 N. Clark St., Chicago 26, Ill. Basic necessities are a bottle of nitrogen gas, a regulator to control the duration and interval of the bursts, hose, tanks, and a manifold for distribution of the gas.

Until recently, such installations have been experimental and custombuilt affairs. The obvious advantage of complete uniformity resulting from nitrogen burst agitation has created a demand which Calumet is filling.

Aristo Spectro-Con

Printing on Kodak's Type C color paper has been simplified considerably by a device called the Spectro-Con. This unit consists of an enlarger light source containing three separate lamps: red, green, and blue. The lamps are so designed that they may be used individually or in combination, with the chosen color covering the entire light source.

In use, the lamp housing is connected to a control cabinet which has three dials, each of which operates a single lamp. Complete control of color balance is achieved by adjusting the intensity of the red, green, and blue lamps. This eliminates the need for filters and assures maximum sharpness of the projected image. The light source is most flexible, with hues of varying intensities as well as white light available. Exposures average ten seconds at 1/8 on normal paper with a 5X enlargement.

The Spectro-Con "45" for 4 x 5 enlargers costs \$485 and is available from Aristo Grid Lamp Products, Inc., 65 Harbor Rd., Port Washington, N. Y.

This housing should also be useful with the many types of variable contrast enlarging papers.—THE END





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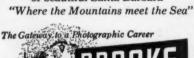
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PICTURES in a MINUTE

by JOHN WOLBARST

Arriving now: new Polaroid cameras, new meters, new exposure control system.



Starting right now, the entire line of Polaroid Land cameras is going to have its exposure control system revamped. A new series of Polaroid exposure meters will be introduced. Net re-

sult of these important design and product changes: Polaroid camera owners are going to find it much easier to get correct exposures than it ever has been before.

Here's the basic change. Present exposure control numbers on Polaroid cameras will be discarded in favor of a set of numbers corresponding to the new EV (exposure value) scale.

Last month we went into some detail about the exposure controls of Polaroid cameras and how to get correct exposure (in case you missed this, write and ask for a copy of the July column). Here's how the new system differs from that detailed last month.

What EV numbers mean

Exposure value (EV) numbers perform exactly the same function as the Polaroid exposure numbers. However, they are part of a new standardized system (also called LVS) being adopted by camera and exposure meter manufacturers all over the world. EV numbers usually range from 2 to 18 or 19 (or even higher). As with Polaroid numbers, the lowest numbers indicate maximum exposure. As you go up the scale, exposure is cut in half at each successive higher number.

Going down the scale, each successive lower number indicates a doubling of exposure.

The new cameras

The first Polaroid Land cameras to carry the EV scale will be the Model 95B, in the Speedliner series, and the Model 80A, which is the second in the Highlander series.

Except for the change in the numbering, these cameras are otherwise similar to the Models 95A and 80 now in circulation.

Since these Polaroid cameras use only eight exposure numbers, and the EV scale may have up to 20 numbers, the new cameras utilize only part of

(Continued on page 30)



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PICTURES IN A MINUTE

(Continued from page 28)

the EV scale. Below is a table showing how EV numbers correspond to the old Polaroid numbers.

EV	er	eq	uals	à Y 7	Polaroid number
10					1
12					3
13					4
15					6
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The new exposure meters

To go with the new numbering system, Polaroid Corp. now has some exposure meters calibrated in EV numbers. First, the PR-23A and PR-23B. These are alike mechanically except for the attachment clip. That on the PR-23B fits only the Model 95B camera; that on the PR-23A fits the Model 80A. In function and sensitivity these meters are similar to the PR-23 now supplied for use with the Model 80 Highlander camera, with these differences: they have the EV scale; the range of film speed settings has been extended to take care of the new, faster Polaroid Land films, Price of these meters will be \$14.50.

A really new and very able little meter has also been added to the line. This is the #620, made by a famous West German meter manufacturer. Functionally, and in sensitivity, it is similar to that supplied as an accessory for some famous 35mm cameras. For use with Polaroid cameras it has special calibrations.

The #620 comes with a ring carrying the old-style Polaroid exposure numbers. Underneath this is another ring with EV numbers. If your camera has the regular Polaroid numbers, you leave the top ring in place; if it has the new EV numbers, simply undo a couple of little screws and remove the top ring, exposing the EV ring below. The meter performs equally well with either type of calibration.

The #620 will come with extra attachment clips so it can be adapted to fit onto any model Polaroid camera. Price will be \$16.95.

Why easier correct exposure?

This is really quite a sensitive little meter, as is. However, Polaroid Corp. plans to market (at a later date) a "flag" which can be plugged into the light cell for increased sensitivity. Then you will be able to get accurate exposure readings even in very dim light. The "flag" system is currently used on a number of excellent meter

It's no secret that a meter of this ability has been much needed by Polaroid camera owners. The very fast new films have made it possible to shoot in poor light; the new #620 is the first Polaroid exposure meter designed to let you get the most out of those films.—THE END

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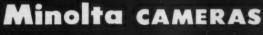
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Improved negative color materials—versatile, easy to handle.



For over twenty years reversal color films — Kodachrome, Ektachrome, Anscocolor, Anscochrome — have nearly dominated the field of color photography. Aside from the profes-

sional who made carbro or Dye Transfer prints, or the amateur who found Kodacolor ideal for his use, color photographers were conditioned to look at transparencies. A print—Kodachrome Print or Ansco Printon—was generally an afterthought.

However, improved Kodacolor and Ektacolor negative films, quality Type C printing paper, and the imminent appearance of Agfacolor negative film may well change the picture.

Basically a negative color film has the following advantages: with a relative amount of ease a color negative can be used to make black-andwhite prints, color prints on paper, and transparencies suitable for viewing or projection. When made at the same time, duplicate prints or transparencies can be equal in quality to the first one. Perhaps the most important advantage is that a single roll of negative color film can be shot under a variety of light sources including sunlight, electronic flash, clear flashbulbs, floods, and almost any other kind of light. Control over color balance and print density can be accomplished during printing.

The major steps in processing and printing from negative color materials are fewer than they are for reversal materials. First development, and reexposure to a photoflood are eliminated. This simpler procedure reduces the number of points at which a mistake can be made, and reduces time to be spent in the darkroom.

The negative-positive process

After exposure in the camera the film is placed directly into a color developer. This simultaneously develops a silver image and a negative dye image. In subsequent steps, the silver image is bleached and the unused silver salts fixed out. The result is a negative dye image. Kodacolor and Ektacolor negatives have an overall yellow-orange appearance caused by correction masks that help give prints proper color balance.

The processing of the color materials on which color negatives are printed is basically similar to negative processing. Naturally, positive, not negative, dye images are formed.

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While exposure and development of the negative should be as nearly correct as possible for top quality results, minor variations in color balance are taken care of with filters in printing.

Just a word here about filters used when exposing the film and in printing.

Although it is entirely possible to expose negative color films under a variety of light sources without the use of a filter and then make adjustments in printing, from a practical point of view it is still best to try to achieve a uniform color balance when taking the picture. Consequently, one film manufacturer recommends use of filters for certain light sources. Use of these filters is especially imperative if you aren't going to make the prints yourself. Color finishers generally judge which printing filters to use only on the basis of the picture-taking situation evident in the negative. When a printer sees an indoor scene, balance is made for clear flashlamps, while outdoor scenes are balanced for daylight. If other light sources than the ones just named are used to make indoor or outdoor pictures, and recommended filters are not used on the camera lens, then the commercial finisher's prints may not have quite the color balance to suit your taste.

How good are color prints?

At this point you're probably anxious to know just how good a print you can get out of negative color materials. In a recent trip to a New York City color lab the writer was shown a series of prints, some made by Dye Transfer (a rather expensive process) others made on Type C material (relatively inexpensive). He found it difficult in many instances to judge for himself which prints were made with which process. In addition to these prints he has seen a great number of color prints, some made by rank amateurs, others by advanced workers. All that he can say at this time is that the results not only are encouraging but really exciting.

Do negative color processes replace reversal materials? The answer is "no" if your primary interest is color transparencies, or shooting in color with the least cash outlay. The price of a roll of reversal color film plus the cost of development is substantially less than the cost of a roll of color negative film to which must be added both the cost of development and the cost of prints.

How do color prints made from color negatives compare with those made from color transparencies?

I think the answer here has more

to do with the psychology of seeing than with purely technical matters relating to the capabilities of each process. No print has the tonal range and brilliance exhibited by a trans-parency. Therefore, no matter how close a color print made from a color transparency comes to technical perfection, it will always fare badly when compared to the transparency from which it was made. Try as we may it is difficult to judge such a print solely on its own merits.

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In the case of a print from a color negative, judging the print on its own merits is simpler since we normally don't regard the negative itself as a work of art, or as a finished picture.

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What's Ahead?

by LLOYD E. VARDEN

Comments on letters received from readers. Who said the technical curiosity of amateur photographers had abated?



There has been a tendency for photographic manufacturers, magazine editors, book publishers, etc., to think that amateur photog-raphers are no longer interested in the technicalities of photography. I was becom-

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ing convinced of this, too, but have always felt that if it were true, then amateur photographers had given away a vital part of their photo-

graphic heritage.

There was a time—many years ago, of course-when the progress in improving the photographic process was due to discoveries and inventions of amateur photographers. Even after this became next to impossible, due to the increasing complexities of the more advanced systems of photo-graphic recording, amateurs maintained a keen interest in what the manufacturers were doing and how they achieved their advances. There seems to be no doubt that the once lively interest of amateur (and professional) photographers in technical details has waned. But in going back through some of the letters I have received from readers in the past few months it is quite evident that the end has not yet come.

Pictures with blood films

One reader remarked that he had been looking forward to a description of a photographic process that he had heard about in which blood was used. And since I often discussed such 'screwy" methods, this column, he thought, would be the most likely place to get the details. Well, here goes!

Blood films for producing photographic prints were briefly described in Nature (Vol. 167, page 833) in 1951. An exposure timing of 24 hours was necessary to get an image. But by 1954 this time was reduced to less than ½ hour, and a complete, illustrated description of the procedure appeared in the Journal of Photographic Science (Vol. 2, pages 174-178).

It is not necessary to go into all of the details here of how the blood films

(Continued on page 38)

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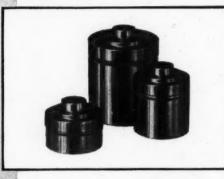
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WHAT'S AHEAD

(Continued from page 36)

are prepared. The procedure can be understood by merely stating that animal blood (guinea pig, rabbit, and sheep blood were used) is mixed with a warm agar and saline (salt) solution so that the mixture contains 4 to 8 percent blood. This solution is poured onto a glass plate which has a paraffin rim around it. When the solution cools it becomes jelly-like and anally solid. Then a glass cover plate is put on top the paraffin rim, leaving an air space between the glass and the solidified blood mixture. A photographic negative is exposed to the blood film from underneath, using a 1,000-watt lamp. Provision for keeping the blood film cool is necessary, however.

After an exposure of about 25 minutes the image "develops" with time. Its growth can be arrested by placing the blood plate in a 10 percent solution of formalin in saline. This is followed by brief rinsing in water and drying. The time required for image development depends upon how the blood solution is prepared. For example, the image can be made to appear almost immediately after exposure by incorporating a few drops of methylene blue dye in the solution, whereas times up to 24 hours may be necessary under some conditions.

Now a most peculiar property of the blood image when methylene blue dve is used is that the normal direct positive properties of the system, i.e., it normally forms a negative from a negative or a positive from a positive, reverse themselves upon standing for 24 hours. Thus, an exposure to a negative eventually becomes a positive. Another interesting property is that relief images are produced if the drying operation is carried out very slowly.

Tape versus film

Another reader wrote to me about the extent to which magnetic tape had replaced photographic film for picture recording. I have discussed video tape recording on several occasions in past months and have implied that for some purposes photographic film might be doomed to oblivion.

In the April 26, 1957 issue of Radio-Television Daily it is reported that Ampex officials (Ampex Corporation makes the only video tape recorder in use) claim that tape will never replace film for television purposes. This is actually a pretty strong statement in favor of tape. If tape has already reached the point of application where complete replacement of photographic film is being discussed, then tape has surely made heavy inroads.

A number of TV shows are now being originally broadcast from tape recordings. At first it was thought that tape would be used only for rebroadcast purposes in place of using kinescope film recordings. This latter ap-

(Continued on page 40)

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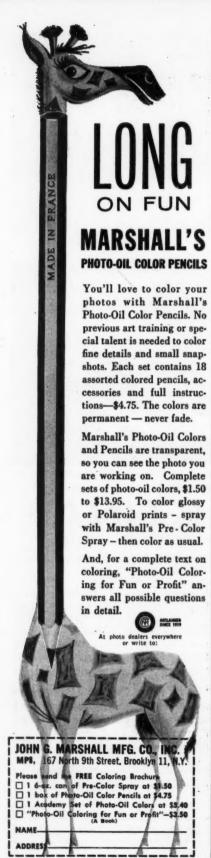
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WHAT'S AHEAD

(Continued from page 38)

plication would not amount to much as far as cutting into the total amount of film consumed in TV is concerned. But now that tape has been used successfully for original broadcast purposes, even for some coast-to-coast broadcasts, it means that film consumption is bound to drop off. In my opinion it will not be many years before photography will be playing a very minor role in television.

But have no fears about magnetic tape replacing existing practices in amateur photography. Don't forget, a video tape recorder costs about \$50,000, and the reproduction quality, although satisfactory for television, is a long way from equaling that of film. The resolution of a 35mm film, for example, is at least ten times that of the best resolution so far obtained with tape, and there is every reason to believe that improvements in film will make this spread still greater in spite of improvements in tape recording.

—THE END

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the CAMERA CLUBS

by MABEL SCACHERI

If your club is suffering the stultifying effects of over-regimentation, take a tip from a new club with a slow-go-easy approach.



Sometimes I wonder whether camera clubs the country over are not too regimented. Most of them meet regularly, have speakers who emit contradictory statements, have monthly print and

color slide contests, awards, ribbons, plaques. It can be downright depressing for some slow-go-easy who likes to make pictures when he feels like it, and who often just sits around and gabs about photography.

When such a guy gets into a camera club he usually becomes the target of group reproach. He doesn't enter contests often, he frequently misses meetings, he hates to serve on committees, and he is made to feel that he is some sort of dead wood—just a spectator, not a participator. Well, is that a crime?

Recently I discovered a new camera club which does not operate in the conventional groove. Slow-go-easies, meeting-missers, photo chit-chatters—all are welcome. This club is simply their photographic home, not a boot camp.

It is the Chinese Society of Modern Photography, 20 East Broadway, New York City, and it occupies the top, fifth floor of the building. The space was actually an apartment, and the energetic club members who are renovating and remodeling the place for camera club use have not removed the stove. Too handy for making tea.

This is the second camera club to be organized in Chinatown, the older one being the Photographic Society of New York, 31 Division St., with the well-known Wellington Lee as spark plug. Neither one holds regular meetings, although both throw parties occasionally which make other camera club parties look dull and listless. Both clubs are busiest on week ends, when most members have free time.

Talent and taste

To get back to the Chinese Society of Modern Photography, let me say that when its quarters are completed, they will be efficient, pleasant, and handsome. There will be a darkroom, good-sized studio or shooting room,

and three smaller rooms. Are these rooms going to be chilly white or glum gray? No, they're being decorated with a more subtle sense of color. One room will be in golds and browns, another in a sort of lavender-pink, another with floral wallpaper, another in neutral-textured paper with bright touches, such as lanterns and Chinese paper ornaments.

Several of the members would be valuable assets to any club. One is employed in a film lab which processes color. Another works in a photo shop on the street level of the building next door to the club's happy home. This shop is open weekends, including Sundays. How would you like that setup, when your club darkroom happened to run out of paper or hypo?

Another member owns a share in a nearby Chinese restaurant which, to judge by a dinner at which I was happily a guest, is a dandy institution in which to own shares. It's open very late, for those typical impromptu, camera club kaffee-klatches—only they are tea-klatches for this club. Did you ever hear of such a wonderful camera club paradise?

You can feel the genuine enthusiasm of the members. I'm sure nobody had to get up and make the high-pressure speech that goes, "Now listen, fellows, don't let a few guys do all the work. Show up Saturday and swing a paint-brush. This is your club, remember." Those boys have manners—not the flowery, fussy kind, but genuine, quiet consideration for other people. They'll get the painting and plumbing and wiring done without being needled into doing their share.

Why is a camera club?

Since they have no regular meetings or monthly contests, there is also no need for any of those other typical harangues like, "Come on, get some prints in, and slides. Last month there were so few entries it was an insult to the judge. Get out and take pictures—that's what a club is for."

Well, is that what a club is for? Isn't it intended to make photography more interesting and enjoyable? There are as many ways to enjoy photography as there are varieties of shutterbugs. Not everybody likes to dash out and shoot pictures on schedule, or even take part in competitions. Some people rightly feel that they get more out of friendly chats with other fans, casual comparing of prints or slides, exchange of technical tips, personal demonstrations of method among a few people.—THE END



-by John Gajda with Sylvania Press 25's at f/32 and 1/400

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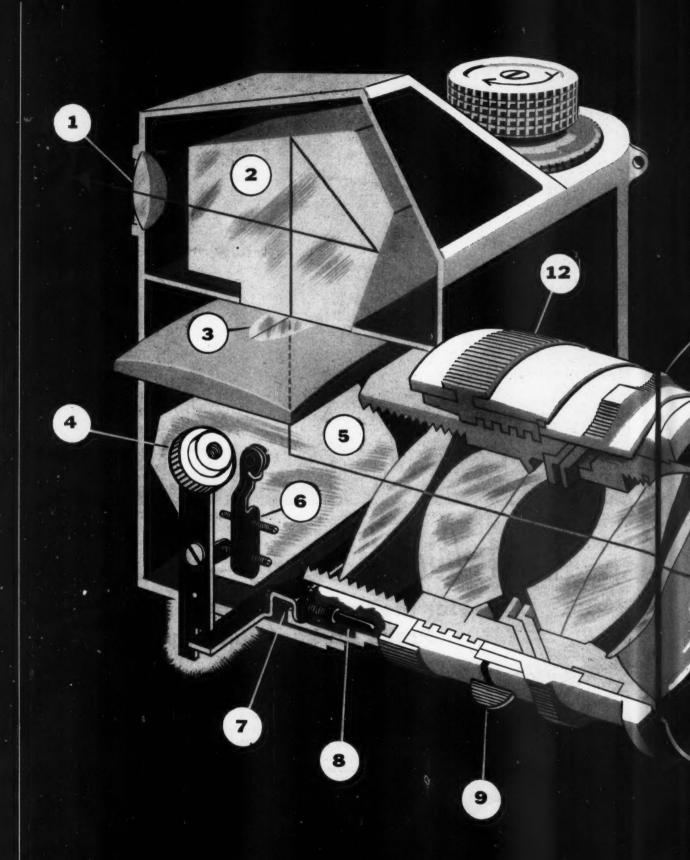
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BUY IT FROM YOUR PHOTO DEALER

43





WHAT'S THE STATE OF PRISM REFLEXES?

by HERBERT KEPPLER and ARTHUR KRAMER

EVER SINCE THE FIRST photographers complained that the ground glass images of their cameras were not only reversed but also upside down, inventors have been busy devising schemes for putting things right.

Bright minds wrestled with large-sized camera designs. Finally the subject appeared righted on the ground glass screens of single-lens and twin-lens reflex cameras (the image was still reversed). But what about the 35mm? After flirtations with both single-lens and twin-lens designs, which generally proved awkward or too bulky, the manufacturers devised a direct optical finder system and later added the coupled rangefinder. This state of affairs produced satisfaction among 35mm advocates for over 30 years. Photographers simply assumed that the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune—i.e. tiny rangefinder windows, extra parallax-correcting viewfinders, accessory close-up devices and the like—were as close to natural law as man's mechanics would get.

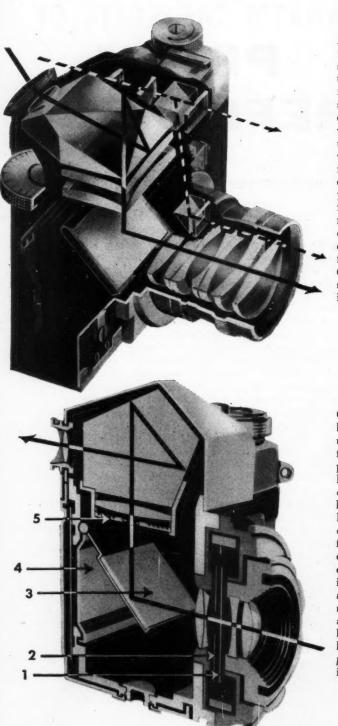
In 1947, a peculiar looking, bulky, crudely constructed camera appeared which was destined to upset the satisfaction forever. The Contax S, a single-lens eye level reflex produced by Carl Zeiss in Russian-occupied Jena, Germany, provided eye-level viewing and focusing on a right-side-up, unreversed, relatively brilliant ground glass. What the lens saw, you saw. Despite the overblown price of this first prism camera (\$475), its construction, a shutter which was as noisy and unreliable as a third-hand meat grinder, it proved an instant success with

HOW A MODERN PRISM REFLEX WORKS

When you look through eyepiece (1), you see an image produced through the pentaprism (2). Condensing lens underneath has rangefinder in center (3) which enhances the brilliance of the image reflected by mirror (5) held in place by latch (6) which swings forward when the shutter release (4) is pressed. Just before exposure the diaphragm actuator (7) moves outward and pushes the lens diaphragm pin (8), shutting down the lens. Lens must be recocked with lever (9). Ring (10) preselects lens opening. Knurled ring (11) controls focusing. Interchangeable lens mount (12) is also knurled.

MORE ABOUT PRISM REFLEXES >

5 attempts to solve lens problems of the prism reflex. Which one



2 SYSTEMS BETTER THAN 1?

Alpa 7 has a unique through-the-lens prism reflex focusing system with 45° viewing (as shown by solid line bent upward at rear of camera). While this works nicely for horizontal pictures, it's rather awkward for vertical shots. The dotted line shows the Alpa 7 alternative optical system, a completely separate superimposed rangefinderviewfinder set vertically in the camera body. This unit, which is multifocal, showing the fields of view for 50, 90, and 135mm lenses, can be used for vertical shots, or in any spot where it's difficult to use the prism system to advantage. If you're ever in doubt as to the accuracy of your focus with the prism, you can check with the rangefinder. The separate Alpa 7 rangefinder is often confused with the prism rangefinders built directly into the central portions of the prism finding systems of other reflex cameras. The Alpa 6, which does not have the multifocal rangefinder system, does have such a prism rangefinder built into its ground glass.

A SIMPLIFIED CAMERA

Contaflex provides a most brilliant viewing image, but focusing can only be done in central area, using ground glass ring or split image rangefinder. However, no other single-lens reflex (with possible exception of soon-to-be-available Kodak Retina Reflex) is as simple and foolproof to operate. Leaf-type Compur LVS shutter (1) and lens diaphragm (2) are integral parts of camera. Diaphragm closes automatically to preselected opening when you press shutter release. Winding film to next exposure recocks shutter and reopens diaphragm. Mirror (3) swings upward before exposure. Swinging blind (4) is unique, preventing film from being struck by light except during actual exposure. Fresnel-type lens (5) underneath condensing lens helps deliver bright image and also houses rangefinder prism. Between-lens leaf shutter limits lens interchangeability to front lens components on the Contaflex III and IV (see page 54). Cameras in future may have completely interchangeable lenses; behind-lens shutter.

does the jobs properly?





PRESET LENS



3 SOLUTIONS FOR 1 CAMERA

Exakta camera uses externally coupled automatic lenses only. When lever A is pressed on automount, pin in rear presses camera shutter release while aperture shuts. When lever is released, diaphragm opens. On semi-automatic mount, pressure on B closes down lens, but cocking lever C is used to reopen it. All preset lenses close by turning ring D manually before releasing shutter.

photographers. Here seemed the only major advance in 35mm camera construction since Dr. Barnack adopted the military rangefinder for the Leica.

A new way to see

The camera gave the photographer new horizons mechanically and aesthetically. No longer need he squint through a tiny peephole of a rangefinderviewfinder and attempt to imagine how wide-angle or tele lenses would affect the subject. If he wished to know what was in or out of focus at any given lens aperture or distance setting, he found it before his eyes on the ground glass. His eye became the film. What he saw, the film captured. He could creep to within inches of a tiny creature on a leaf, focus through the eyepiece of a telescope, copy any document, change lenses with no thought to extra finders or parallax correction. Before him was a brilliant, life-size image of his subject formed by the lens on his camera. This camera design provided photographers with a most precious commodity-a new way of seeing, a different viewpoint and perspective which stimulated not only the amateur but even the jaded professional. The single-lens prism reflex seemed to eliminate the mechanics between the eye of the photographer and the subject before him.

The optical plan was splendid but the mechanical engineering was not. Once you became enchanted with the magic image on the ground glass, it was necessary somehow to close the lens aperture down for the proper exposure before releasing the shutter. While you fiddled with the diaphragm ring, the magic often evaporated before your eyes. Decisive moments simply wouldn't wait for the undecisive prism reflex.

In addition, the increase in body depth of the eye-level reflex seemed to make standard wide-angle lenses almost impossible to use since they generally had to sit pretty far back in the camera. In the single-lens reflex, a 45° mirror which reflects the image to the prism must swing out of the way before the shutter can be released. The swinging mirror hit the back of the wide-angle lens.

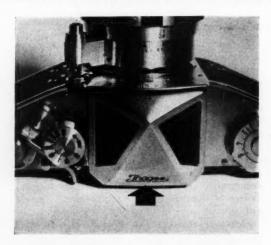
Nine cameras to see with

These were only two of the problems facing the advocates of the one prism reflex ten years ago. Today, that one camera design has been increased tenfold—almost. There are now nine different makes in single-lens prism reflexes (see page 50). Each has taken the problems of the camera and attempted to solve them in a different manner. Some are more successful than others. Where a manufacturer succeeds with one problem, he often fails elsewhere.

It is almost criminal, at this date, to enter into academic arguments as to which camera is the better—rangefinder or single-lens reflex. This is a matter of photographer's choice. Anyone who insists that the eye-level prism reflex is a fully developed camera should take another look at the rangefinder camera.

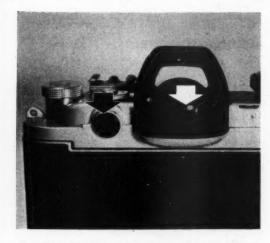
MORE ABOUT PRISM REFLEXES >

Before buying a prism reflex, check these points to ascertain



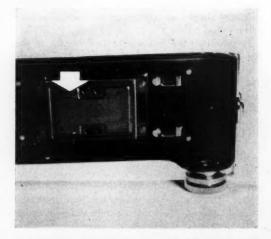
PENTAPRISM: REAL OR PHONY?

If the pentaprism is interchangeable on the camera you buy, make sure the prism is the one recommended by the manufacturer. Many cheap prisms deliver a poor, dull, inaccurate image. If you must save money, check brightness and focus of prism against official one. Official Exakta prisms bear factory trademark. Newest ones have leather covered sides, as here. Make sure prism housing has no dents.



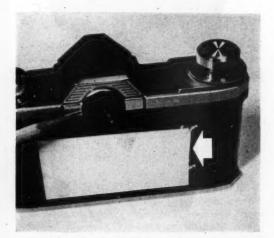
TWO FINDERS SHOULD SEE ALIKE

When you're fortunate enough to have two separate viewfinders on your camera, a prism finder and direct optical finder for the same focal length lens, check area covered by one finder with area seen through the other. They should match fairly exactly. Note: Some prism reflexes, as a safety measure, show slightly less in viewfinder than is actually recorded on film, so don't be alarmed at this.



PRESSURE PLATES ARE PROBLEMS

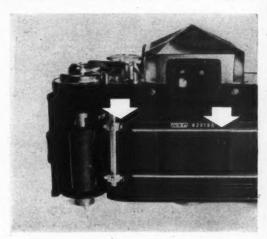
Designing a pressure plate which will hold the film flat against the camera's film plane over its entire surface during exposure without scratching the film is no mean task. Pressure plate, whether smooth or ridged, should have light springing motion when pressed down with finger. It must allow film to run through camera without causing much noticeable drag. Drag almost always causes scratching.



IS THE PRISM FINDER ACCURATE?

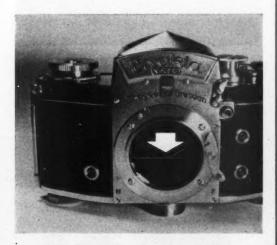
Although taking pictures with a camera is the most accurate method of checking focus, you can do this in the camera store: tape a small piece of ground glass on film plane. Open lens wide, set shutter speed to bulb. Focus through prism on sharply defined image or newspaper page, check this focus on ground glass. A magnifier helps. Ground glass must be flat against camera body.

whether the camera is all right.



SPOTS THAT CAN GIVE TROUBLE

For some unfathomable reason, a number of prism reflexes have appeared from time to time with burred sprocket wheels and unfinished, rough film plane areas. Examine sprocket wheel carefully. Burrs may cause film to tear, clogging camera mechanism. Rough film plane will produce scratches on film. One sure check: run a test film through your camera. Exakta, pictured, is noted for smooth finish.



MIRROR LAG SHOULD BE SHORT

If the prism reflex has a spring-operated mirror, action of mirror flying upward before shutter trips should be almost instantaneous. Remove lens, hold camera toward you. Press shutter release slowly as you would for slow shutter speed exposure. Note time between mirror action and actual shutter tripping. Check against other cameras to make sure it's quite short and the time is constant.

Today the rangefinder camera with its brilliant, large image, parallax-correcting viewfinder, has reached a quintessence of perfection. The best are made by a precision generally associated with watch making, and no other 35mm cameras come near them. In 30 years of continued growth the 35mm rangefinder camera stands at a peak of operating efficiency and superior design. The single-lens reflex is a latecomer, still growing, with a lot of room to go. No manufacturer of single-lens reflexes would be foolish enough to suggest that his camera couldn't be improved upon. Nevertheless, a good number of photographers have jumped on the bandwagon of the single-lens reflex. The big question: is the bandwagon ready?

The single-lens prism reflex field today is divided into two schools of design. The Contaflex system with between-the-lens Compur LVS shutter, and cameras with focal-plane shutters. The Contaflex (see illustration page 46) is the closest to a completely automatic camera in the field. It is limited to some extent by the leaf shutter which makes full interchangeability of lenses impossible. The newly introduced Contaflexes III and IV, however (page 54) seem to be taking steps in the right direction to solve this problem. While they don't have complete lens interchangeability, they do offer interchangeable front lens components. The Kodak Retina Reflex, although not yet available, will have a similar optical system and lens interchangeability.

Death of the focal-plane shutter?

The Contaflex is thought of by most professionals as an advanced amateur camera. These professionals require more interchangeability of lenses than such a design now affords. One leading optical expert insists, however, that the Contaflex design is the design of the future, that future eye-level reflexes will have complete interchangeability of lenses with a behind-the-lens shutter, that the focal-plane camera shutter is an outmoded, doomed has been. At present, the has been is doing well indeed and its health seems to be improving with age.

The vast majority of single-lens reflexes have adopted the focal-plane shutter because it allows almost unlimited interchangeability of lenses.

This is the basic design of the original Contax S. No other camera is as automatic in operation as the Contaflex, but each approaches it in varying degrees. The internally coupled automatic lens diaphragm (see illustration, page 44) is perhaps the latest advance in design. As the shutter release is pressed, a small pin in the camera body presses against a small pin on the interior of the lens mount and a spring automatically closes down the lens to any desired opening. The lens must be recocked to full aperture manually after each exposure if you wish to focus with maximum ease. Such a system exists on the Praktina camera. Unfortunately only a few lenses in varying focal lengths are available in these automatic mounts at present, although others are promised. The Exakta and Exa cameras represent

MORE ABOUT PRISM REFLEXES

9 prism reflex designs make choosing one a real puzzle . . .



ALPA prism reflexes all have 45° viewing (see page 46), manually operated mirror. Swiss, German, French lenses available are excellent. Automatic lenses couple externally.



CONTAFLEX is simple to operate (page 46). Model I has non-interchangeable lens, II has exposure meter, III has meter and interchangeable components. For IV, see page 54.



EXAKTA VX IIa is left-hand operating, has more accessories and shutter speeds than any other 35mm prism camera, externally coupled automatic lenses, removable prism, rapid wind lever.



MIRANDA has extremely quiet shutter, removable prism. Most interesting feature: various lens adapters allow Exakta, Pentacon, Praktina, etc. lenses to be used on Miranda camera body.



PENTACON is official factory name of original but improved prism reflex. Newest model has internal semi-automatic diaphragm, brighter finder. Camera is often seen under various brand names.



RECTAFLEX represents Italian ideas on prism reflex 35mm cameras. Non-interchangeable prism has rangefinder built into center. Camera has manually operated mirror, nicely finished body.

Here's how they differ.



EXA is scaled down Exakta with simplified, very quiet shutter, limited speeds 1/25 to 1/150. It takes most Exakta accessories, but no interchangeable lenses over 105mm.



PRAKTINA FX features internally coupled, semi-automatic diaphragm lenses (illustration page 44), removable prism and accessory finders, electricand spring-driven motors, other accessories.



RETINA REFLEX made by Kodak in Germany is not yet on market but features shutter, viewing system similar to Contaflex. It has rapid wind, f/2 lens, interchangeable components, built-in meter.

an older camera design which existed before stopping down the lens became a problem. Lens manufacturers solved this problem with these cameras in three different ways—with an automatic lens which does not need recocking, a semi-automatic lens similar to that on the Praktina, plus the preset lens mount which seems to be the standby with all lens makers (see illustration page 47). The automatic coupling mechanism fits over the body release of the camera itself. The Alpa camera uses a completely automatic coupling on many of its lenses, the Pentacon uses an exterior coupling, and the Miranda has no means of employing automatic lenses of any sort as yet.

28mm is not Cinemascope

The second problem of the focal-plane shuttered single-lens reflex was the difficulty with wide-angle lenses. The French had a word for it—retrofocus. Angenieux, a leading French lens manufacturer, employing an inverted telephoto lens principle, introduced first a 35mm f/2.5 lens and then a 28mm f/3.5 lens. Previously, wide-angle lenses for these cameras were limited to about 40mm. Other manufacturers were not long in making lenses of similar construction. The prism reflex enthusiast has a good choice these days, although lenses of 25mm or 21mm which are available for rangefinder cameras are not yet ready for him.

With the wide-angle lens came another problem. Photographers still found critical sharpness difficult to determine with the ground glass. As they stopped down their lens or used shorter focal length lenses. thus increasing depth-of-field, the problem became more acute. Accordingly, some manufacturers affixed two small fixed prisms underneath the ground glass of the pentaprism. These worked like a split-image rangefinder. The image within a small central circle is seen split down the middle. When the lens is in focus, the two image halves match. When out of focus, they don't match. Although this prism arrangement seems to be extremely accurate for most lenses, it doesn't seem to work accurately with extremely long ones. Also one-half the image darkens considerably if the lens is closed down in poor light. -for flash work, for instance. The Exakta, Exa, and Praktina feature removable prism rangefinder glasses. The Rectaflex has a permanent prism rangefinder. So do the Contaflex and Retina Reflex, while the Miranda has none at all. The Alpa 5 has no prism rangefinder. The Alpa 6 has a very good one which is not removable. The Alpa 7 has a completely separate rangefinder-viewfinder which is unique indeed (see illustration page 46).

A major complaint of single-lens prism reflex users centers around the shutters. Only the Exa, a relatively simple camera, and the Miranda, a camera with no automatic lenses, have what could be termed quiet shutters. The others are more or less on the noisy side. Photographers claim that a number of the makes are difficult to (Continued on page 112)

PRO USES MUCH 35MM EQUIPMENT

LIFE MAGAZINE staff member Ralph Morse has a monumental assortment of 35mm equipment—and he needs every bit of it. As a *Life* staffer he can never really know in advance what kind of picture he will be shooting tomorrow. Each piece of equipment has its job. Morse says of his equipment:

"I use 35mm when working close to people, for candid reportage, candid portraits of people, available light, and news."

Here is the 35mm equipment that Morse owns and why he owns it:

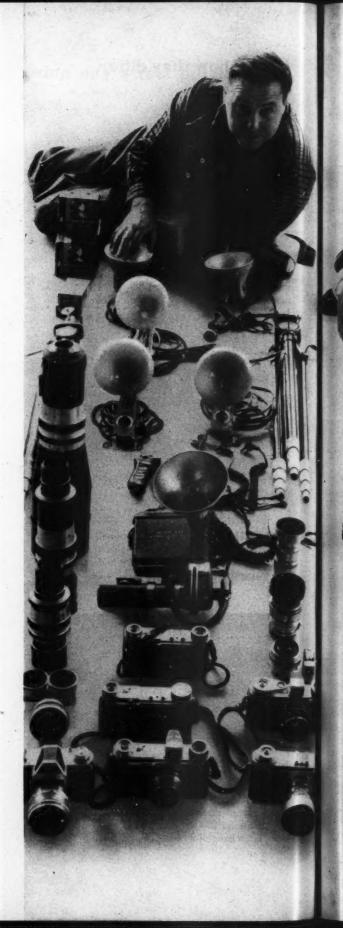
Cameras: Morse has two pre-war Contax II cameras (right foreground, illustration, this page), chiefly for news work. Backing them up are three Contax IIa bodies for assignments requiring several different lenses. Why Contax?

Morse feels that "a professional doesn't necessarily choose a camera because it's perfect, but rather because it can be adapted to do the job. The Contax II is the only focal plane camera that can be modified to fire at 1/100 sec. with electronic flash. At slower shutter speeds I find that newsreel and TV lights encountered at some news events result in ghost images."

His Contax D, an eye-level, through-the-lens focusing camera (left, foreground), is used for long telephoto lenses. He doesn't have to worry about parallax correction or accessory finders because he focuses and views right through the lens. Morse mounts his Makro-Kilar lens on the Contax D for extreme close-up work. A Robot Star, a rapid sequence camera (not shown), rounds out his 35mm cameras.

Morse says, "the Robot is invaluable for sports photography and as a concealed camera for sneaking pictures in certain news situations."

Lenses: Morse has four wide-angle lenses: Biogon 21mm f/4.5; Tessar 28mm f/8; Nikkor 35mm f/1.8; and Biogon 35mm f/2.8. The wide-angles are used on either the Contax II or IIa's. The 21mm and 28mm wide-angles produce extreme wide-angle effects and often an exaggerated sense of (Continued on page 106)





AMATEUR MUST DO WITH LESS

LOU BERNSTEIN, despite the fact that he works at one of New York's biggest photography stores, is heart and soul an amateur. He has no desire to turn professional. His photographs are highly personal, shot as close to people, friends, or strangers, as conditions and camera allow. Here is a rundown on Bernstein's equipment and his reasons for selecting the cameras and accessories.

Cameras: Bernstein likes his Nikon Model S2 for situations requiring an unobtrusive camera. Since many of these situations occur under available light conditions, he believes the Nikon gives him an advantage. He feels the shutter is quieter at low speeds, compared with shutters of other cameras.

Bernstein's search for his kind of pictures takes him to contrasting backgrounds. One day he may shoot within an intimate group—the next time amid a crowd.

Many of Bernstein's pictures are made at the Coney Island beach. Bathers are wedged so tightly together on a hot Sunday afternoon that moving in close is almost impossible. Thus, Bernstein takes along his Praktina FX for use with a telephoto or long focus lens. The eye-level, through-the-lens focusing and viewing of the Praktina ends parallax worries completely.

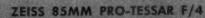
Bernstein also owns a Hexacon 35mm eye-level, through-the-lens camera simply as a spare unit to have around—and for a reason that's important to many amateurs—the cost wasn't terribly high.

Lenses: Bernstein feels that his lens requirements are simple—and should be kept that way because of the segmented type of photography in which he is interested.

"I look for little pieces of life, things that happen in the space of only a second or two and take place within restricted surroundings."

Bernstein shoots with a Nikkor 50mm f/1.4 lens mounted on his Nikon where the light is really poor. He often uses the lens wide open and is satisfied with the images he obtains. (Continued on page 106)

CONTAFLEX IV:





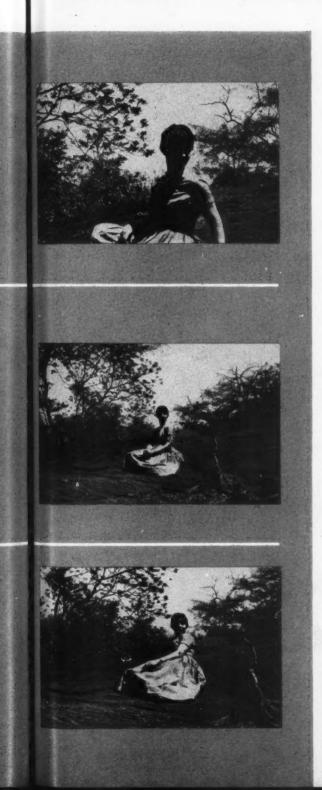
ZEISS 35MM PRO-TESSAR F/4



ZEISS SOMM TESSAR F/2.8



HOW GOOD IS IT?



NEW MODELS keep arriving on the camera market with bewildering rapidity—and often with no more good reason than that of pushing the old ones out of style, like last year's automobiles. The new Zeiss Contaflexes III (\$176) and IV (\$199), with split-image rangefinder and very brilliant ground glass focusing ring, however, seem to have been intended to advance a continuous line. They do not supersede the models I and II, but offer variations of the basic Contaflex design, the chief modification being the introduction of interchangeable lens components. The Contaflex IV also incorporates an exposure meter, as does the model II—but with the difference that it is calibrated according to the LVS (light value scale) system of the Synchro Compur shutter.

The Compur, in fact, was what had distinguished the Contaflex I among single-lens reflexes when it was introduced in 1953 (adopting the name of the old prewar Zeiss twin-lens reflex that was unique in using 35mm film, and having a focal-plane shutter and builtin meter). The Contaflex I offered the unusual combination, in a 35mm reflex, of a between-the-lens shutter and automatic lens diaphragm. The principal deficiency of this arrangement, compared with cameras having focal-plane or behind-the-lens shutters, was lack of lens interchangeability. Zeiss engineers partially made up for this by designing the Teleskop lens attachment, which could be mounted in front of the regular 45mm f/2.8 Tessar. The Teleskop, similar in principle to the Duonar telephoto attachment for the Rolleiflex, combined optically with the Tessar, increasing the focal length to about 80mm. A wide-angle attachment was not offered, probably because of technical and economic complexities—and the fact that the original 45mm lens already provided a wider than usual sweep.

The Teleskop extended the application of the Contaflexes I and II. But it is easy to agree with the implied judgment of Zeiss technicians that the idea is, at best, a makeshift—and a bulky, complicated, and expensive one at that. The Teleskop needed to add six elements to the four of the Tessar, and while the definition given could be considered fairly good, comparison with firstrate telephoto lenses indicated its limitations.

It was apparent that the problem would have to be solved by moving in another direction—that direction was suggested, in 1955, by the system of the Kodak Retina IIIc. Like the Retina, the new Contaflexes achieve lens convertibility with a between-the-lens shutter by providing for interchangeable front cells. While the rear cell of the basic 50mm f/2.8 Tessar remains fixed, the front may be instantly removed by unlocking a bayonet mount, and wide- (Continued on page 100)



CLOSE IN FOR DANCE

PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO undertake to picture the dance must meet its special requirements, and Jesse A. Fernandez has added another to the list—agility. Photographing Escudero, world-famed flamenco dancer, turned out to be somewhat more exercising than the portrait session which had been prearranged. Fernandez arrived at the appointed hour to find the dancer in rehearsal, asked if he might photograph him as he performed.

Given a "go ahead" answer, he aimed his Leica, loaded with Tri-X film—whirled, twirled, twisted, and leaped along with Escudero to make the forceful set of pictures which appears on these pages.

The flamenco is a fiery gypsy dance whose movement is concentrated in feet, hands, and arms, which weave their interpretation around the fluid stalk of the body. Fernandez moved in close to emphasize the expressiveness of these features, capture the essence of the high-spirited flamenco.

A slow shutter (1/25 sec.) blurred one booted foot in the photo opposite, lending excitement, suggesting strong movement of the feet. An f-stop of f/4 blurred background, left dancer's right pivotal foot stark and clear in contrast to his swiftly moving left. (Continued on next page)

By moving in close, Jesse A. Fernandez concentrates attention on hands of flamenco dancer Escudero, catches glimpse of expressive brow.



The movement in any dance is the dynamic expression of idea and emotion. Whether it's a child dancing with abandon in the street, a ballerina performing a faery jete, or the rhythmic, forceful gyrations of the flamenco—action is the means of communication. The language may vary, but the message is there, ready to be interpreted by the spectator in terms of his own sensitivity and experience.

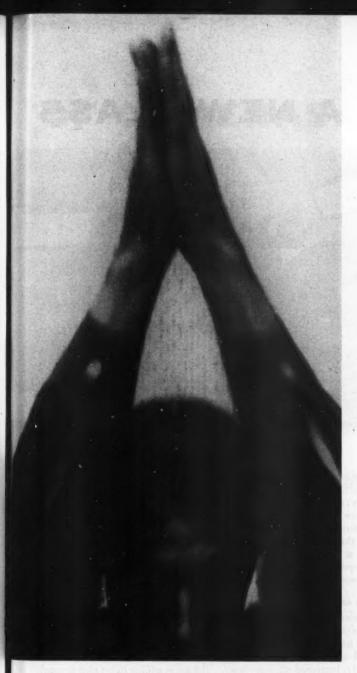
To catch, or create the sense of, movement which is the essential of dance must be the photographer's first consideration. Second, a creative photographer will be selective in choosing movement, gestures which typify the action of the dancers—keys which will unlock for the viewer the same responses which the dancer evoked in the photographer.

Fernandez' pictures demonstrate a keen eye for interpretive peaks. He takes full advantage of them by moving in close and concentrating the camera eye on expressive hands and feet, re-creating the energy and vitality of the flamenco.

The type of dance will to a certain extent determine the photographer's approach to his subject. An apache dancer, for example, certainly demands a different sort of treatment than a prima ballerina. But most forms of dance lend themselves well to the close-up technique. The beauty of the full-figure dance portrait is not to be denied, but for expressive impact, limber up your dancing legs and move in close.—M. T.

Slow shutter (1/15 sec.) blurs clapping hands, creates sense of movement.





Wide aperture minimizes background, emphasizes prayer-like position of hands over bowed head.

Hands are one of keys to interpretation of flamenco—here startling against dark shirt.



ENTER A NEW CLASS



FOR SOME TIME NOW, f/2.8 cameras have sat like so much sandwich filler between moderate priced f/3.5 (and some f/4.5) cameras on one hand, and the expensive cameras with f/2 and faster lenses on the other. Currently, however, things are giving way in both directions; 35mm cameras with f/3.5 lenses seem to be tramping the path of the dodo. And although the very fast lenses still have a definite place, the f/2.8's are able to do sufficiently fast work for most people-at a lower price. Remember, the f/2.8 lens is only one stop away in speed from what was formerly considered the average "speed" lens—the f/2. Today the f/2.8 lens is found along the whole price range of cameras, from those without rangefinder, to those with. It is even invading the still-young but prospering and often expensive single-lens reflex group, not to mention the elite of the rangefinder cameras (See Canon, center, above).

F/2 at f/2 is not f/2.8 at f/2.8

Thanks to increased speed and latitude of new film materials, many

photographers caught up in the momentum of the fast, fast lens rage can gently apply brakes. In fact, many times when one ordinarily would be tempted to shoot at f/2, he will find that he will have better definition at f/2.8. A good f/2.8 is often sharper wide open than is a good f/2 lens.

Why this is happening

New optical glasses and optical recalculation make simple designs that were once limited to f/4.5 and f/3.5 better and usable at a larger aperture (f/2.8). Increased efficiency has also come from new methods of lens coating—which permit a better use of air-spacing as part of the lens design.

Not to be overlooked are improved manufacturing methods, including automation, which have also helped to bring faster lenses to the public at reasonable and reachable prices. Two cameras in the low-priced field, the Minolta A-2 (shown) and Olympus 35, even boast a 5-element lens of a really high degree of correction. Recalculation, which often took two

years because of complex mathematics, can now be done quickly and with the aid of mechanical brains. Instead of being solved in months and years, these problems are often worked out in weeks or days.

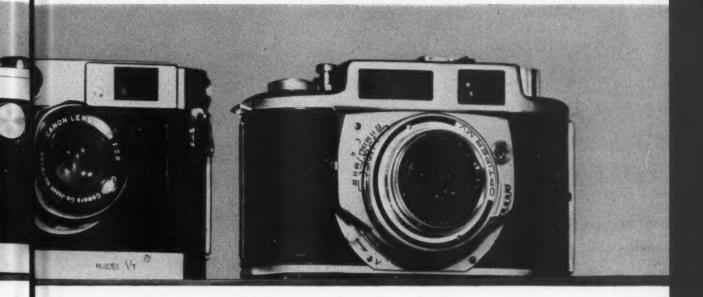
Are faster lenses on the way out?

Definitely not. But although these lenses cost substantially more than the f/2.8's, there will always be a need for utmost speed-particularly in reportage, where light conditions can unexpectedly resemble a coalbin. But we're willing to bet that as emulsions become faster and faster, and film resolving power increases over even our latest thin emulsion films, more and more research will be done to get lenses which, instead of boasting fantastic speed, will boast excellent correction and fantastic resolving power over the entire negative area.

If the single-lens man wonders

Skeptics who may be interested in one of the 35mm single-lens reflex class of cameras have wondered

OF CAMERAS: THE F2.8's



about the advisability of an f/2.8 lens for their purposes, such as the Exakta with Tessar f/2.8 lens, above. They want a faster lens, with a wider lens opening, they say, because focusing at f/2.8 is often difficult under low light conditions. However, prism rangefinders built under the penta-prism of many single-lens reflex cameras will be helpful here. These split-image rangefinders work quite accurately. (For more complete information, see "Why the Trend to Prism Reflexes," page 44.)

What f/2.8's are available?

More than fifty f/2.8 cameras have been listed in the table at the right. Keeping in mind that most of the things that can be done with an f/2 lens, usually can be done as well with an f/2.8, many photographers can now set their accessory equipment-acquiring minds to work. For the cost of the f/2.8 lens is substantially lower than the f/2. In many cases such a saving lets the photographer buy an extra wide-angle or telephoto lens—or even an extra camera!

-NORMAN ROTHSCHILD

THE F/2.8 LOOK APPEARS IN MANY 35MM'S

WITHOUT

Bower 35
Bolsey Explorer
Certo 35
Classic 35
Confina II
Edixa A
Paxette 1b
Realist A
Regula
Vito B
Vito BL

COUPLED RANGEFINDERS

Non-interchangeable lens

Bolsey B-3
Bolsey Jubilee
De Jur DI
Edinex IIIs
Graphic 35
Kalimar B
Lord
Lordox
Minolta A-2
Olympus 35

Akarex Ic

Petri
Photrix
Realist B
Regula
Ricoh 500
Royal Super 35
Super Baldina
Super Paxette
Super Westomat
Vitessa L

lens—behind lens shutter Agfa Ambi-Silette Argus C44 Braun 35 De Jur 35 Diax Ila Futura IIIs Lordomat Lordomat C35 Regula IIId

Retina IIC

Vitessa T

Interchangeable

Same as above, but without rangefinder Akarelle Contina III Diax Ib

Interchangeable
lens—focal
plane shutter
Leica
Canon
Contax

SINGLE-LENS REFLEX

Non-interchangeable lens, compur shutter Contaflex I Contaflex II

Interchangeable lens, focal plane shutter

Alpa 4, 5, 7
Asahiflex
Astra 35 FX
Astraflex
Contaflex III, IV*
Exa
Exakta
Prektica FX2, FX3
Praktina FX
*Comput shutter





35 MM

techniques made the pictures on these 14 pages. But photographers chose their techniques. Always the successful photograph exists first in the mind of the maker and comes to graphic realization only through his correct choice of equipment and materials. Perhaps in no other field of photography is so much versatility at the command of the photographer as in the 35mm world. Yet this very fact demands great skills from the 35mm photographer in choosing his tools. These are some exciting ideas you may wish to emulate, but remember, no camera is better than the eye and the visual imagery in the mind behind it.

WIDE ANGLE

This Ethiopian landscape by Alfred Eisenstaedt is a fine example of the reason why many professionals consider the wide-angle lens ideal for landscapes. In this case a 35mm Elmar on Eisenstaedt's Leica allowed him to include more in his picture, made the three foreground subjects somewhat larger than normal in relationship to the rest of the scene, and doubtless exaggerated the width of the lake.

PHOTOGRAPH @ TIME, INC.

DEPTH OF FIELD



Should the zone of sharp focus in your picture be shallow or deep? Choose first the mood you want to capture. Herewith, two lessons in extremes. Hugh Bell, left, was after a visual representation of the fact that the people on the Spanish island of Ibiza drink a great deal of wine. The partially empty bottle was sitting on a table in the late afternoon shade. Using a Leica IIIf, equipped with an 85mm f/1.5 lens, he selected f/2 for his opening, which gave him a sharp bottle and just the suggestion of a blurred figure out of focus in the background. Harold Feinstein, right, was after quite another mood—the bright sharpness of a sunny day in a field of daisies. He wanted everything clean and detailed. So, he stopped down the lens of his Praktina, using the 35mm f/2.8 Flektagon at f/16, insuring sharpness from foreground to background and a day's work for daisy counters.



NEAR OR FAR?

One of the subjects hardest for the beginner to photograph is the large group. Too often the final picture looks like a lineup of condemned prisoners awaiting the firing squad. Photographers Harold Feinstein, below, and Hildergard Sandhusen, right, managed to come up with excellent, if completely different, solutions to this difficult problem. Feinstein closed in on his happy summer group listening to a beach singer. He used a person outside the range of his camera to distract the group's attention from the camera, waited for a spontaneous laugh before he released the shutter. His choice of lens, a 35mm Elmar on a Leica IIIc, also added to the impact of the picture. It made his main subject in the foreground, the singer, larger and more dominant; it added a feeling of depth, and permitted him to include more figures. Data: f/5.6, 1/200 sec. on Plus-X.

Sandhusen stood further away from her subjects, tried to get as many figures as possible into her panoramic late afternoon beach scene. The choice of lens for this shot, too, was of importance. She used a 90mm f/4 Elmar on her Leica M3. This longer-than-normal lens increased the apparent size of the farthest figures, somewhat compressed the various planes of the picture. Picture shot on Kodachrome, f/8 at 1/25 second.





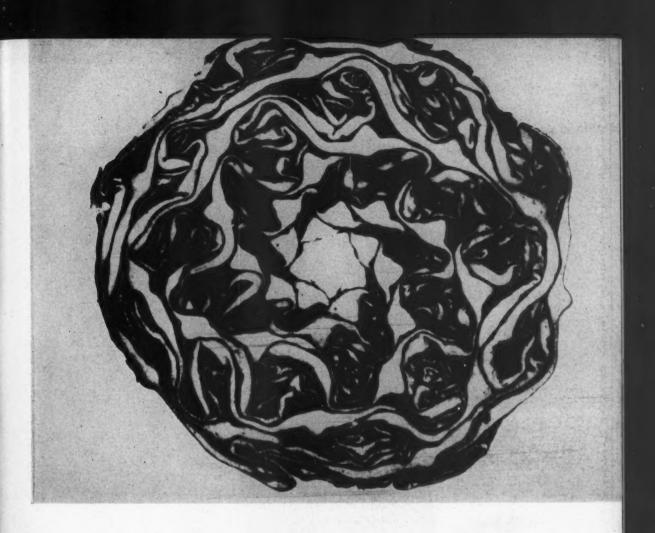






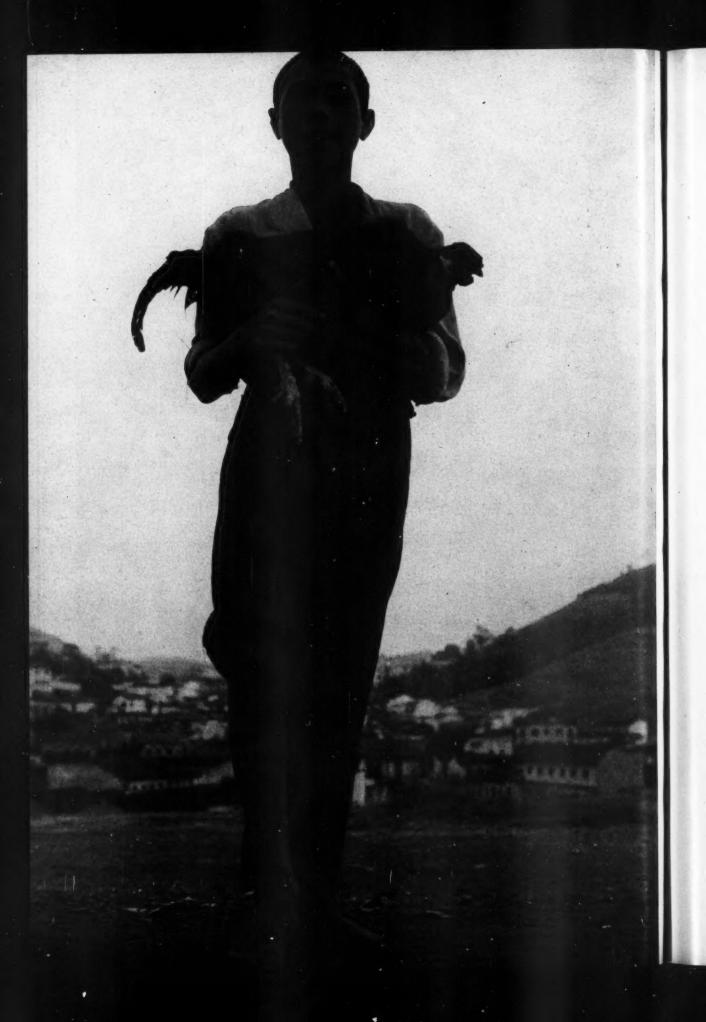


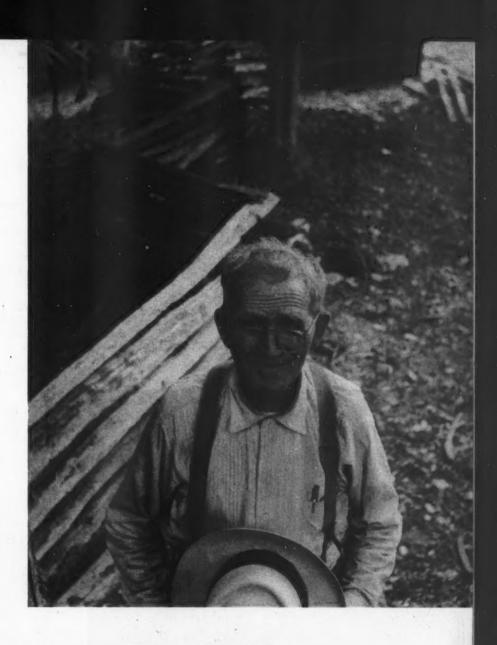




TWO-DIMENSION

Orderliness, which generally stems from the proper use of two-dimensional effect, is the essential of a good design picture. Here are three subjects, shot with different films, lenses, lighting conditions, distances. Yet each is a fine example of the eye-catching dramatic use of design. Emma Landau, far left, was trying out the new 35mm Super Anscochrome (see MODERN, June, 1957), daylight type, under tungsten lighting conditions. Exposure index of the film was 100. Other data: Leica IIIf, 50mm f/1.5 Summarit lens, f/4 at 1/25 sec. Despite the fact that a figure appears in the background, which adds depth, the strong two-dimensional effect of the black grill work holds the picture together. And the yellow color, resulting from the daylight film's being shot under tungsten light, plays off dramatically against it. Spencer Ross, left, produced close-up of a section of an old tire in early morning light with a Leica M3 and an 85mm Nikkor lens. The exposure was f/6.3 at 1/50 sec. on Kodachrome. In this case, focus helps the two-dimensional quality, since tire and fence post are both sharp and the distracting background has been thrown out of focus. At the opposite end of the pole from these casual shots is Harold Feinstein's close-up study of a head of cabbage, sliced in half, above. This was shot on a piece of frosted glass, light coming through it, plus floods from the front. The camera, a Praktica equipped with a 40mm Makro Kilar lens, was 12 inches away from the cabbage. Exposure was f/5.6 at 1 sec. A contrasty filter exaggerated the blacks and whites in printing and ferricyanide brought up the whites still further.





UP OR DOWN?

Here are two similar pictures. In each case, the photographer was working on a picture story. In each case, he was after the same image—a posed portrait. Yet Mottke Weissman, who made the photograph, left, of a Spanish gypsy boy in Malaga, Spain, and Flip Schulke, who produced the portrait, above, of a mountain man in Burnsville, N. C., came up with two graphic answers. The choice lay in camera angle. Schulke wanted to show that his subject was a farmer and that the farm was old—thus the inclusion of the story-telling background. So, he shot from a high angle, using the zig-zag of the fence as a design interest. Data: Nikon S-2, 35mm f/2.5 Nikkor wide-angle lens, f/8 at 1/60 sec. in late afternoon shade, Plus-X film. On the other hand, Weissman was faced with a distracting, misty back-lit group of houses. He wanted to concentrate on the handsome child and felt that the rooster was enough of a prop. So he eliminated the background and exaggerated the height of the classically beautiful form of the boy by shooting up from a low camera angle. Data: Leica IIIf, f/1.4 Biotar, f/3.5 at 1/30 sec., Super-XX.

EXPOSURE EXTREMES

Exposure, too, is a control at the moment of taking the picture. Both of these pictures depend for their final impact on the original concept of the photographer, as well as good printing technique once the negative had been developed. Charles Capilla's night shot, below, is a complete study in black-and-white. There are no middle tones. The shirt is overexposed, the shadow area is underexposed. The light was very dim and the exposure, hand-held, was for 1/8 sec. with the 50mm f/1.4 Nikkor lens of his Nikon S-2 set between f/1.4 and f/2. Peter Sahula's blackbird, right, was shot in an opposite extreme of light, at midday. However, his result is the same—a pure study of blacks and whites, no middle tones. Sahula overexposed his Tri-X film by shooting with an opening of f/5.6 at 1/200 sec., using a Nikon with an 85mm f/2 Nikkor lens. He thus blocked the detail in highlights, then gave extra exposure to the bird when printing—calling attention to the essential area of the print, the tiny bird.





ROLLEI Va: 5 CAMERAS IN ONE

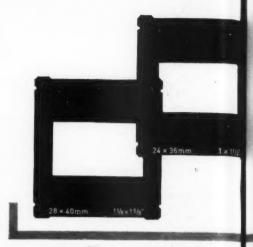
THE NOBLE ROLLEI mounted its white horse and rode away in five different film sizes at the same time. Chivalry is not dead in camera manufacturing. Franke & Heidecke, the German makers of the Rolleiflex and Rolleicord, now offer the Rolleicord Va which produces pictures in five different negative or transparency sizes. By interchanging film plane masks, film counters, and viewing masks you can have: 12 standard $2\frac{1}{4}$ x $2\frac{1}{4}$ shots, 16 $2\frac{1}{4}$ x $1\frac{5}{8}$ (Vest Pocket size), 16 $1\frac{5}{8}$ x $1\frac{5}{8}$ (Superslide size), 24 standard frame 1 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ (35mm standard frame) or $1\frac{1}{8}$ x $1\frac{5}{8}$ (Bantam) pictures.

Aside from moving the focusing knob of the camera from the right side to the left (to accommodate the interchangeable film counter), the Rolleicord Va has few other changes from the now discontinued V. The lens is the standard 75mm f/3.5 Schneider Xenar and the shutter, the Synchro-Compur with LVS coupling. The real novelty concerns the various picture size possibilities.

The Rolleicord Va, when purchased (for \$124.55), has a standard 12-exposure, 2½ x 2½ counter system. Two accessory kits in leather cases are available at \$7.50 each. The 16-exposure kit provides two ground glass masks to show either the Superslide or Vest Pocket framing areas, two sportsfinder masks which fit into the open Rollei sports hood, and a single spring-loaded film plane mask which is specially notched to show the proper film areas of both size pictures. By removing a small screw and opening the camera back, the 12-exposure counter can be removed and the 16-exposure counter put in place. The ground glass mask slips into the focusing hood and is held firmly with spring clips. The sportsfinders have push-on clips to hold them. The film plane mask locks neatly into the film plane.

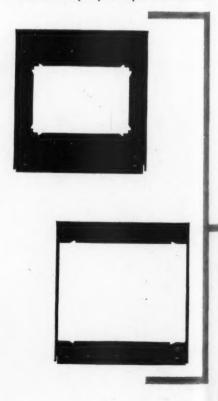
The second kit contains a 24-exposure counter and all the masks for the Bantam and 35mm format pictures. These fit on the camera in the same manner as the Vest Pocket and Superslide masks and counters.

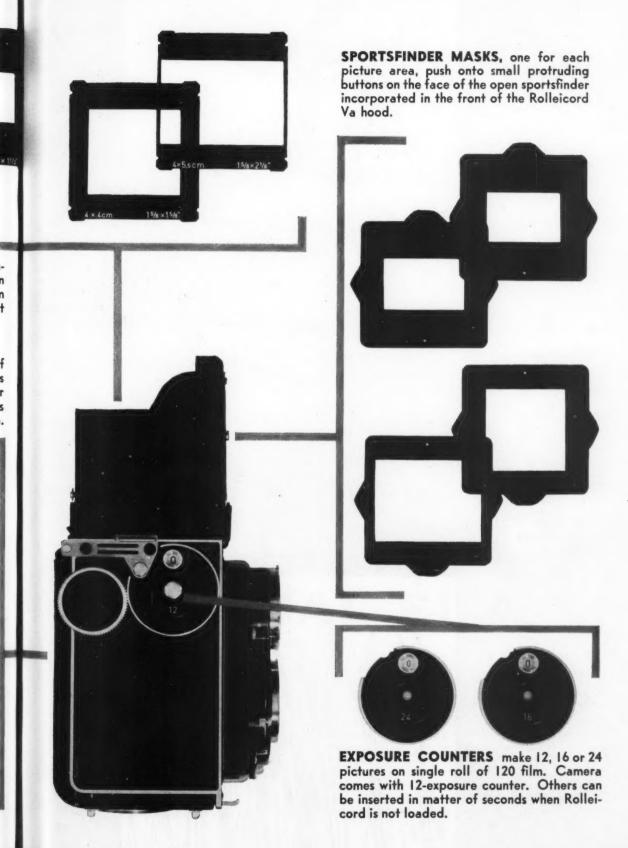
We tested each kit and mask. Mechanically, they work to perfection. The counters and automatic film stop in the camera provided even spacing between pictures. The counters and masks took only a minute or so to change between film rolls (you can't (Continued on page 114))



GROUND GLASS MASKS slip inside hood and are held in place on ground glass by spring clips. Bantam and 35mm masks come in one kit; Vest Pocket and Superslide in other.

FILM MASKS slip into film plane of Rolleicord Va. Bantam mask has notches to show framing for smaller 35mm area. Vest Pocket mask has notches to show proper Superslide area.





DISCOVERY no. 26



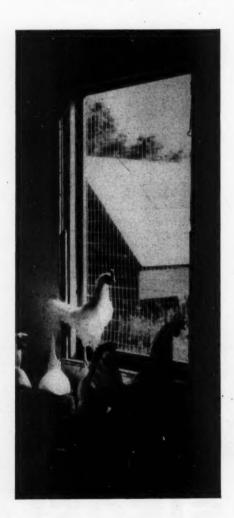


HAL SIEGEL

Silhouette lends mystery to photograph of boy swinging in tree, above, by leaving details of expression, elothing, texture of bark to viewer's imagination. Exposure was for sky only, print was made on a hard paper to eliminate the middle tones. The same technique serves to emphasize delicacy of grasses outlined against the sky, opp. below. Opp. above Siegel effectively isolated a single spire of grass by moving in close and using wide aperture.

A photographer's choice of subject—and his attitude toward it—can be the distinguishing characteristic of his work. Hal Siegel's photographs on these pages show his particular sensitivity to nature, to things growing toward the sky. And they also show that in his eyes the importance of these things is not related to their size or physical impressiveness. He puts this point across by violating one of the most respected rules in the snapshooter's code: the notion that photographs must have scale, or, in other words, must include some object of a known magnitude to which the viewer can refer to estimate the dimensions of any unknown. You, the viewer, have no idea of the true height of the single grass-like stalk opposite. It might be several inches or several feet tall. The group of rushes below it are isolated against the sky and they too lack scale. In effect, by rendering these grasses as large as the tree above, Hal Siegel presents them to us as its equal in value as well as in size.—P. C.

MONTHLY CONTEST



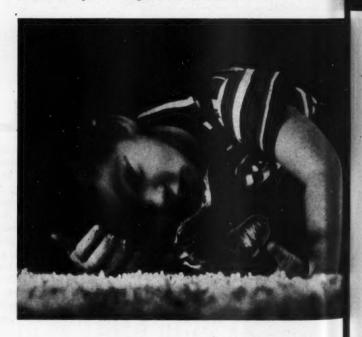
Light, its quality and direction, often determines the mood of a picture. Although the illumination is completely different in each of these photographs, all illustrate the importance of having the lighting reinforce rather than contrast with the total pictorial and emotional effect desired. "Lovers in the Fog" at right shows this clearly. Its message is soft and tender, the sunlight is soft and diffused. Harsh, directional light would be discordant here, would change the meaning of the photograph.

Anyone may enter any number of black-and-white prints in Modern's "Monthly Contest." Pictures must be 4 x 5 or larger in size, and your name, address, and all technical data must appear on the back of each print. No entry blanks are required. Please enclose a stamped (first-class postage), self-addressed envelope if you want us to return pictures we're unable to use. All entries are considered for use elsewhere in the magazine. Send them to the Columns Editor, Modern Photography, 33 West 60 St., New York 23, N. Y.

THIRD PRIZE \$10. Side and back light combined provide variation on similarly posed chickens. The foreground bird, rendered as a semi-silhouette, contrasts with the white hen in the background. Howard Israel of New York, N. Y. shot with Rolleiflex, Super-XX film, and exposed at 1/50 sec. and f/11.

SECOND PRIZE \$15. For natural photographs of children indoors, avoid complicated lighting setups. Shoot by available light, May Mirin of New York, N. Y. exposed Super-XX in Rolleiflex at 1/25 sec., f/5.6 for this unusual close-up of child and pet. The negative was intensified.

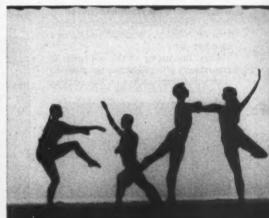






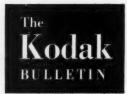
\$25 FIRST PRIZE. Delicate lighting emphasizes delicate mood in photograph of couple embracing in the forest. Thomas Barnickel, Goslar, West Germany, Kodak Retinette.

THIRD PRIZE \$10. By eliminating details and reducing values to black and white, a silhouette lets viewer concentrate on form alone. Here, Yuro Psheradsky of Rio de Janeiro captured an active moment of the dance. Rollei, Tri-X shot at ½ sec., f/3.5.



THIRD PRIZE \$10. When shooting outdoors, forget the sun-at-your-back formula and try side-light. The deep shadows and brilliant contrast which result will add drama to almost any situation. Street laborers were photographed unawares by Johann Krop of Amsterdam, Netherlands, Ikoflex camera.





7 superb papers

New multiple-contrast papers mean extra convenience, economy, print quality. Choice of high-speed and medium-speed types. New flexibility in dodging to save those "problem" negatives. Also, a timely word about a reliable old developer and the new films...pleasure in your pocket...clean lenses... close-up views...and more rest at night

Everything in one box

You reach for a box of No. 2 paper. The test print is flat. You open up No. 3. Still flat, better try No. 4. That's that. Now for this brutally contrasty negative. Where's the box of No. 1? Oh, oh—it's empty, and now the stores are closed. Well, we can try No. 2, maybe dilute the developer—in any event, the store will be open Monday. Now, here's a real toughie, the center portion should go on No. 4 with dodging, the surrounding area on No. 2.... What do you do in a case like that?

Easy. Just use up all this old paper as opportunity offers, and give the boxes to your wife to keep recipes in. Buy one box



of Kodak Polycontrast Paper in the size and surface you prefer, and a kit of Kodak Polycontrast Filters.

Or, if you like a really high-speed enlarging paper, buy a box of Kodak Polycontrast Rapid. Same filters.

Kodak Polycontrast is a variable-contrast paper of superior tonal quality, with a warmth similar to that of Kodak Medalist Paper. It also is similar in speed to Medalist—can be used either for rapid contact printing, or enlarging.

Kodak Polycontrast Rapid is a highspeed variable-contrast paper, similar in its cool black tones and printing speed to Kodabromide Paper. It too is a topquality paper; the variable-contrast feature does not involve any reduction of

These two papers work with seven filters, numbered 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 3½, 4. Instead of reaching for a different box of paper, you simply slip the right filter

under the enlarger lens. In effect, here are seven grades of paper—the basic 1, 2, 3, 4, with "half grades" sandwiched in between.

But this is only part of it.

By dodging—using one filter as you print one area, a different filter as you print the rest—you can have two or more grades in the same print. If a face is over-exposed and flat, it can be printed for contrast—while the background gets lower-contrast printing!

Top-quality variable-contrast papers in two speeds have been needed by amateur photographers for a long time, for three basic reasons:

 An active amateur ranges over a wide variety of subject matter and lighting conditions; he naturally has more "problem" negatives than the professional who shoots under controlled studio conditions.

2. Stocking several printing grades of a favorite paper ties up more of an amateur photographer's money, or forces him to buy 25- and 50-sheet quantities instead of 250- and 500-sheet boxes. There's also the problem of aging, and of shelf space in the small home darkroom.

 Some enlargers are slower than others, so some users need a rapid paper while others prefer a medium-speed paper.

Kodak Polycontrast and Polycontrast Rapid Papers solve these problems, and this is why Kodak is particularly happy to introduce these two top-quality variable-contrast papers.

Let your Kodak dealer show you some sample prints; note the smoothness of scale, rich tonal quality, and lack of mottling. Then try one or both of these papers, and you'll discover a new freedom in darkroom work. Kodak Polycontrast comes in all standard sizes, single and double weight, glossy F and lustre N surfaces. Kodak Polycontrast Rapid Paper comes in F and N single weight, G and Y double weight, in all standard sizes. Prices are the same as for Medalist and Kodabromide Papers. And the filter kit, complete with holder to attach under the enlarger lens, is \$13.75.

More rest

You've just finished a long, late session of print making—and you still have a big

stack of prints to dry. Now's the time to haul out your Kodak Photo Blotter Roll and put your prints lovingly on its pure, lint-free surface. Then roll it up snugly, tuck it away, and head for bed. Next morning the whole batch of prints is dry. \$2.88 is a small price to pay for so much extra sleep.

All this for \$8.50



Well, not exactly. It's the Brownie Starflash Camera that costs \$8.50. But it will do some things you can't do with cameras that cost ten or twenty times as much.

The film format is 1½-square. So, the Starflash makes Kodak Ektachrome transparencies exactly the right size for 1½x1½ slides. The Starflash also makes good Kodacolor negatives for color prints. And black-and-white negatives for snapshot prints. And sharp enough for enlargements, too. Outdoors and indoors also. No extra flash unit to buy, because the flash unit (for M-2 bulbs) is built in. And it's so simple a six-year-old child can operate it.

Look at a Starflash Camera next time you buy some film. It's a wonderful gift for a boy or girl—just the right size for small hands—just right for a wife who wants a personal camera without technical complexities. And at \$8.50 with flash, a bargain. Every family should have one or two of these.

Release

How's your cable release? If it's getting old, frayed, and worn out, you need a new one. For \$1.25 you can get a modern, stainless-steel Kodak Metal Cable Release with a universal tip that fits most cable-release sockets.

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Say you've just picked up some Kodachrome transparencies at your Kodak dealer's and you can't wait to see how they came out. Or, you meet a friend in the street and are itching to show him some of the first Ektachrome transparencies you processed yourself. Or, you're home and want to show a guest just one



slide without setting up your projector. At such moments you just slip a Kodaslide Pocket Viewer out of your pocket and you're all set. Lens gives four-times magnification of 2x2 slides. Viewer folds compactly. Lists at \$1.95. The \$2.95 Kodak Illuminator, Model 1, fits on the viewer for artificial illumination.

Keeps and keeps

Chances are your film processing goes in skips—three rolls tonight, no more until next Tuesday. What you need is a film developer that *keeps*.

Long life is one of the many happy traits you get in Kodak D-76 Developer. (Among other traits are beautiful tone scale, no blocking of highlights, excellent fineness of grain, and more effective film speed than any other fine-grain developer.)

In full, stoppered bottles, unused D-76 will keep for months without appreciable deterioration. It's so rich in sulfite that it practically refuses to oxidize. You discard it when it has accumulated too much bromide, dissolved out of the film. (Some users even save the aged D-76 and use an ounce or two to "temper" each new batch, cutting the film speed a trifle but getting slightly finer grain.)

D-76 is an ideal developer for Kodak Tri-X, Kodak Royal Pan, Kodak Panatomic-X, Kodak Plus-X, and Kodak Verichrome Pan Films. Your dealer has D-76 packaged to make 1 qt., ½ gal., 1 gal., or 10 gallons of working solution. Cost is a modest 36¢, 51¢, 78¢, or \$4.20.

Patients and petals

Doctors and other research people often need to make close-up photographs in color.

Their needs prompted our medical research staff to create a close-up camera system, with a bracket to fix the flash-older in the best position for 45° illumination, a masking arrangement to regulate light intensity for exposure as close as 8 inches, and a field frame to define the subject areas:



As things turned out, a lot of people besides doctors liked this useful rig. It's perfect for photographing flowers, fossils, making studies of insects, and practically any other small subject.

You can satisfy your yen for experimenting with close-up photography by asking your dealer to show you the Kodak Close-Up Kit. It includes Kodak Portra Lens 5+, adapter ring, field frame and bracket, and Kodak Close-Up Flashguards A and B (for Kodachrome and Ektachrome). Price, \$19.50, list. Works with a Kodak Pony 135 or Pony 828, Kodak Bantam RF, and many other popular miniature cameras.

Protector

The best way to protect your finest 2x2 slides is with glass. The easiest way to do it is with a Kodak Slide Kit. Contains everything you need to mount 50 slides, glass, masks, stickers, and tape. \$3.95.

Dim view



You can't see through a curtain of dust and fingerprints. Neither can your camera lens. Give your camera and your pictures a break by keeping your lens clean. Kodak Lens Cleaning Paper costs only \$1.50 for a dozen 25-sheet booklets. Kodak Lens Cleaner is 40¢ for a 1-oz.

Washability

Want to make a print so you can wash it with soap and water? Dip it in a tray of Kodak Print Lacquer. Just the ticket for prints that get a lot of handling, 8-oz. can, 78\u00e9c.

Mirror, no scratches

Don't jump to conclusions when you look at the back cover of this magazine. Those aren't scratches on the reflector of the handsome new Kodalite Super-M 40



Flasholder. They're reflections of the wire in the flash bulb. They were even sharper in the original photograph, but we had the engraver tone them down.

We mention this to point out again that the Kodak Lumaclad flash reflectors are mirrors, with mirror reflectivity. It's this that gives Kodak reflectors their extra margin of efficiency, more light from every bulb. When you use a Kodak flash unit (such as a Super-M 40 or the Kodak Rotary Flasholder), you get a bonus with every shot.



STILL PICTURES MOVE

A Feature Film About Photography is Characterized by Planned Editing

THE NAKED EYE is a feature length film about the fun and art of photography—and one most people who knew better didn't think could be made. The idea of a film whose stars were largely still photographs seemed farfetched and totally unrealistic in terms of financial return. Audiences at movie houses showing The Naked Eye have proven that those who said it couldn't be done were wrong. Among the awards won by the film for artistic merit are: special honors at the Edinburgh and Venice Film Festivals in 1956; the Robert J. Flaherty Award for the best documentary in 1956, and an Academy Award nomination.

The Naked Eye is a reality because of the faith of Louis Clyde Stoumen, and the small group of people who share the work at Camera Eye Pictures, Inc.

Aside from raising the \$100,000 needed to shoot *The Naked Eye*, Stoumen had to combine live action footage with the hundreds of still pictures in the movie.

It was his idea to state what photography meant to all the many people who own cameras—vacation snapshooters, advanced amateurs, photojournalists, news photographers, and the few who have elevated photography to the level of art. The film tells of the everyday use of the camera, some of the history of photography, and finally culminates in a retrospective study of Edward Weston and his work.

Stoumen's approach to shooting the film can serve as a guide to anyone making a movie. Stoumen—tall, thin, intense—put the idea on paper long before shooting began. By the time actual work started he knew almost precisely what he wanted the film to say. The first task was to gain the cooperation of Edward Weston. It took Stoumen three months to convince Weston, a sick man, that the effort involved was worth it.

Stoumen then made hundreds of still photographs with a Rolleiflex of Weston's finest (Continued on page 108)

Captions are part of The Naked Eye sound track









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⟨ And done, t simple to com

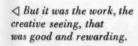
 After the war was done, Edward Weston took up again his photographic travels.



And Charis to come home to, and be with.

⟨ He was at the peak of his creative power now, and his name and photographs were known through the world. Unwilling to compromise his personal vision—with retouching or journalism or advertising agencies—he never achieved even modest wealth.

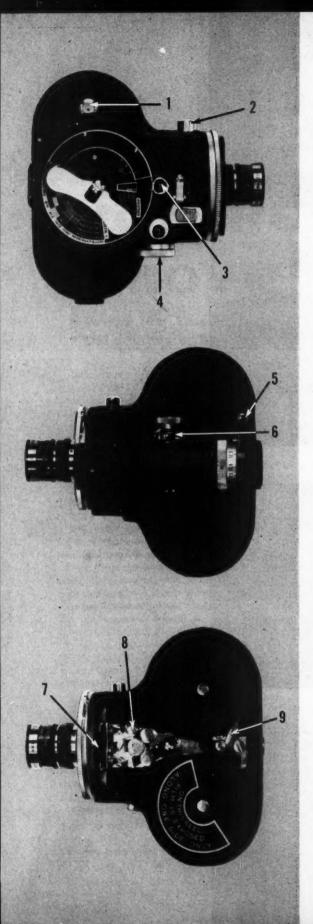








∠ Edward Weston was alone now, an old man, thinking back to the days of his youth. Thinking back to the babyhood of his four boys.



THE EMEL-FRENCH LOOK IN 8MM

THE FRENCH-MADE Emel C. 93, an 8mm camera that looks, feels, and takes movies like a 16mm, at first glance resembles a scaled-down version of a famous American machine. But it's far more than that. It has a complicated history. It's been on the European market for a long time and first appeared in American camera shops several years ago-then disappeared. Now, it is being reintroduced.

The camera is no lightweight when compared to American counterparts, tipping the scales at something less than 31/2 lbs. The weight is so well distributed over the small, compact body that you hardly notice it. More important, the Emel has several features that just

about put it in a class by itself.

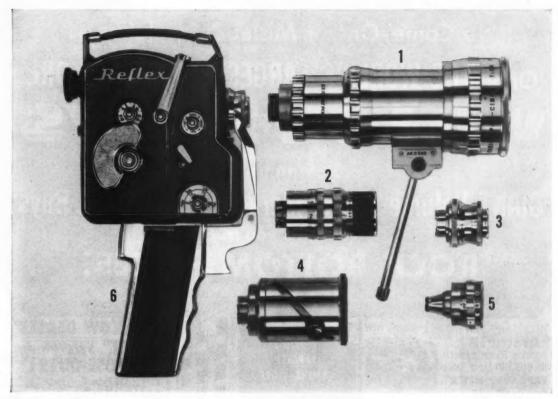
The outstanding features of the camera are shown in the illustration at left. The manufacturer has sacrificed the convenience of drop-in spool loading for the accuracy gained with a sprocket wheel system (8). In drop-in loading, all motor power is consumed by the take-up reel and pull-down claw, with the film traveling around two posts. In the Emel, a sprocket wheel engages the film, helps move it through the gate, and then feeds it to the take-up spool. Frame positioning is more certain, and the result is steadier screen images.

A criticism of spool cameras employing sprocket wheel film transport is that they are difficult to load. We had no trouble loading the Emel. Pulling back on a knobbed post withdraws the film gate and opens the sprocket wheel so that film can be easily threaded.

We also liked the mechanical footage counter. We believe it to be a highly accurate type. A rocker arm rests against the feed spool and a dial at the rear of the camera indicates remaining footage. Internally geared counters, we find, are often inaccurate. The door latch (5) works easily, but when the camera is

closed it locks the cover firmly in place.

The true zoom finder of the Emel removes one of the inconveniences of three-lens turret cameras. It is calibrated for lenses from 6.5mm wide-angle to 50mm telephoto. Thus, any D-mounted lens between these two extremes can be used in conjunction with the finder. The need for accessory finders is completely eliminated between these focal lengths. We really gave the finder a thorough testing. We found the parallax correcting system accurate from 10 in. to infinity, via a control knob (6) mounted on the (Continued on page 90)



The Camex Reflex 8mm double-8 movie camera is the first 8mm camera to offer through-the-lens focusing and viewing. In addition, the variety of lenses and

the adaptability of the camera to many movie making situations make it a milestone in small camera design. See text for information on the camera and accessories.

NOW: A COMPLETE 8MM REFLEX SYSTEM

THE CAMEX Reflex—the first 8mm movie camera with through-the-lens focusing and viewing—is one of the most complete movie making systems in 8mm photography. The accessories for the French-made Camex make the camera a truly flexible movie making instrument.

Through-the-lens viewing and focusing with the Camex eliminates parallax error—seeing one thing through the viewfinder while the lens sees the same object from a slightly different angle. Equally important, there is less possibility that pictures will be out of focus. You look directly through the lens while focusing, adjusting the distance control until the image is sharp. Making a rough estimate of distance can be disastrous with telephoto lenses, or even a 13mm lens at wide apertures.

Just how has through-the-lens focusing and viewing

been incorporated into the Camex? While some 16mm cameras have through-the-lens viewing, it has been considered much too costly and complicated for double-8 spool-loaded cameras.

The Camex method takes advantage of two things—movie cameras make many exposures in the space of one second, and the eye can retain an image for some time after the subject has been removed.

A tiny prism is mounted behind the lens on the front of the Camex shutter. When the shutter is closed (as the film is advanced to the next frame) the image from the lens reaches the prism only, and is then directed to a second prism. The second prism transmits the image to lenses in the viewfinder. The viewfinder lenses carry the image to your eye. When the shutter opens to expose the film, the prism is drawn down and out of the way. Thus, the image goes to (Continued on page 91)

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EMEL SMM CAMERA

(Continued from page 86)

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finder barrel. The knob is calibrated. The knurled knob under the camera (4) controls frames per second. Here is a frames per second control that doesn't break fingernails or take valuable seconds to manipulate. Going from one fps setting to another requires only a quick turn of the knob. Speeds include 8, 16, 24, 48, 64 fps. A button (2) controls single frame exposures. We found fault with the single frame device in that too light a pressure resulted in more than one frame exposed at a time.

Built-in effects

Many advanced 8mm film makers are stymied by the problem of making opticals—lap dissolves, double exposures, and fades. Most 8mm cameras have no provision for optical effects and laboratory costs are prohibitive for the amateur. The Emel's backwind (3) and adjustable frame counter (1) makes it possible to do opticals right in the camera. The frame counter is calibrated from 0 to 120 frames—equal to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft, or five sec. of 8mm film running time.

Suppose you want to make a lap dissolve—one scene fading out while the following one slowly fades in. You shoot the scene. Near the end you begin to close the diaphragm down at a rate that will black out the scene in about three to five seconds. Wind the film back with the backwind and reset the frame counter at the point where the fade-out started. Start shooting the second scene, opening the lens to the normal setting just fast enough to complete the fade-in at the point where the fade-out ends for the previous scene.

What we think

No matter what unusual features an 8mm camera has, the big test is in the film you shoot with it. The Emel handles well under practically all types of shooting conditions.

There were a few items we didn't like. While the viewfinder offers a large image, you may have difficulty seeing all four corners of the frame. We did. The manufacturer is said to be planning an improved finder.

The camera should have a cable release provision. The single frame button is just stiff enough to make jarring the camera a possibility during single frame shooting. This is to be corrected in future models.

We liked the feel of the camera. The well-distributed weight makes the Emel an easy camera to hand hold.

Film exposed with the Emel and shown with a good projector displayed lack of flutter, and produced amazingly rock-steady images.

Price of the C. 93, without lens, is \$199.50. The Emelon 13mm f/1.9 focusing lens is \$39.50.—M.A.M.

ZONE STATE

CAMEX REFLEX

(Continued from page 87)

the film and not the viewfinder. This results in a fleeting viewfinder blackout. The ability of the eye to retain an image, after the subject has been removed, makes this momentary blackout almost unnoticeable except for a slight flickering in the viewfinder.

The Camex viewfinder eyepiece is adjustable by rotating the eyepiece until two crosshairs in the finder are sharp. Because the viewfinder image has a 1:1 ratio, you see the same size image in the viewfinder as you would see with your

unaided eye.

The backwind crank of the Camex is built into the camera—unlike other cameras that require accessory cranks. The frame counter, located at the rear under the viewfinder, is geared directly to the footage counter. It cannot be adjusted with film in the camera. When not in use, the crank fits snugly against the camera body.

The design of the film compartment is simple. Drop-in loading and a completely removable film gate make film handling and camera cleaning a simple

and easy matter.

Frames per second speeds on the camera include 8, 16, 24, and 32, plus single frame. In addition, a cable release socket is fitted inside the regular shutter button.

What's more, the Camex has a cable release operated time exposure lever—a device that can prove invaluable for low light filming of inanimate subjects and animation.

The Camex has a most interesting line of accessories backing it up. Some are illustrated at the top of page 87. A Berthiot Pan-Cinor f/2.4 zoom lens (1) has a range of 17.5mm to 70mm. The Berthiot Tele-Cinor 75mm f/3.5 lens (2), the Berthiot 35mm f/3.5 telephoto (3), and the Berthiot 6.25mm f/1.9 wide-angle attachment (5) are some of the other lenses available. All lenses for the Camex are bayonet-mounted. The adjustable extension tube (4) and the pistol grip (6) are two of the most interesting accessories. The camera is operated by a trigger release when the grip is on the camera.

Just what can you do with a Camex? The through-the-lens focusing and viewing and the available accessories easily make this one of the most flexible cameras on the 8mm market today. Our first shooting tests involved normal situations. For the most part, we shot people. One of the real joys of the Camex is the constant assurance that you are in focus and free from parallax error even when shooting extreme close-ups.

We placed the pistol grip on the camera and found that steady pictures resulted even when shooting with a

(Continued on page 92)



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KOWA OPTICAL CORP., 260 FIFTH AVE., N.Y. 1, N.Y. 35mm telephoto lens. The zoom lens had to be tripod mounted, of course. But here at last was an ideal 8mm zoom lens shooting setup—through-the-lens focusing and a zoom that offered a wide range of focal lengths.

We got our biggest movie thrill from the adjustable extension tube combined with a 75mm lens. We shot about 25 ft. of double-8 film of bugs, small plant life, and other minute objects and turned up some startling footage.

The Camex can also be mounted directly on a microscope and offers an economical method for shooting this kind of film.

We tried shooting a title on black background and then rewinding the film. We then made a second exposure for a near-perfect title over live action. The Camex also has a clear plastic, semicircular disc that mounts on the front of the camera. The disc is scored with f-numbers corresponding to a normal lens, and lens openings can be adjusted from the rear of the camera with a lever attached to the diaphragm. The arrangement is excellent for making fades and dissolves while shooting.

The Camex, with Berthiot Cinor 12.5mm f/2.5 lens, is priced at \$229. Equipped with a Berthiot Cinor 12.5mm f/1.9 lens, price is \$269.—DAVID S. GREEN

Contests

The Canon Camera Co. and RCA Victor have announced their co-sponsorship of an album cover photo contest for color transparencies only. They are offering \$3000 worth of Canon equipment and RCA merchandise as prizes, and the first prize winning photograph will be used on a forthcoming RCA Victor album to be called "HiFi in Focus." The contest closes midnight, July 31. RCA Victor dealers and Canon Camera retailers have entry blanks which list rules and prizes.

August 31, 1957 is the closing date for this year's Boys' Life Photo Contest. Sponsored by Boys' Life, the magazine published by the Boy Scouts of America, it is open to anyone under the age of 19, except professional photographers. All photographs entered must be taken between Sept. 1, 1956 and Aug. 31, 1957. Prizes consist of photographic equipment, with bonuses for prize-winning pictures which depict scouting activities. Further information and complete rules can be obtained by writing to Boys' Life Photo Contest, New Brunswick, N. J.

PRICE CORRECTION

MODERN reported in "Now! 3 Variable Contrast Papers," page 78, June, that a complete set of filters for use with Varigam paper was priced at \$11. Not so. DuPont advises that price of its 10-C filter set should have been listed as \$10.



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f3.5, f1.9 f2.8 f2.8 f2.8	55mm	Cassaron . Quinon, at Culminar Quinar, p. Auto. Quin Quinar, p.	s.	169 149	9.50 10 5.00 9.50 10	38.19 09.49 45.49 04.99 39.50
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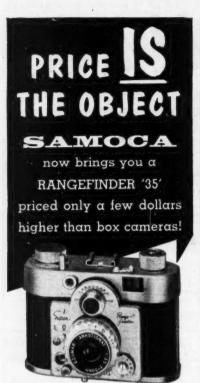
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IIIg, left, is a bit taller than predecessor, IIIf, right, has improved viewfinder.

LEICA IIIg: THE SHAPE IS FAMILIAR, BUT . . .

A new version of an old favorite has been announced by E. Leitz Inc., manufacturers of the famed Leica camera. The new camera is the Leica IIIg. Priced at \$186, without lens (and \$273 with 50mm Elmar f/2.8 lens), it is basically quite similar to the earlier model IIIf. There's a new improved viewfinder, an improved synchronization system, and a new 50mm f/2.8 lens.

All the better features of the earlier Leicas are retained in the IIIg, plus one of the best features of the M-3—a large, bright, parallax corrected viewfinder. The IIIg has the lightness and compactness of classic Leicas. You can shoot pictures with it with one hand, and then when you're finished, put it in your pocket.

The new viewfinder (.7X life size) features a bright line frame showing clearly the field of the 50mm lens. The field of view of the 90mm lens is also clearly marked by four small triangles in the center of the 50mm field.

The viewfinder corrects automatically for parallax when using both the 50mm and the 90mm lenses. When using other lenses, an accessory viewfinder is necessary.

The lens flange has a standard Leica thread like all previous Leicas with interchangeable lenses except the M-3. This means that nearly all Leica screw mount lenses and most of the accessories for the famed Leica system of photography can be used on the new model. There are, however, two or three accessories which do not fit the IIIg Leica

because of the redesigned viewfinder. These include the Nooky close focusing device which cannot be used at all with the new viewfinder at the present time, and the Focoslide, which has to be altered slightly, due to the increased physical height of the viewfinder. The new viewfinder, by the way, makes the camera approximately 3/16 in. higher than the IIIf model, so that it doesn't fit older model carrying cases.

Another advance incorporated in the IIIg is the completely automatic flash synchronization system. Whereas on the Leica IIIf it was necessary to adjust a synchro dial manually, the flash contact setting on the IIIg is now changed internally and automatically as the shutter proced is provided.

speed is varied.

The camera may be set for both zero delay electronic flash units, and five millisecond delay flashbulbs by setting it at either of two zig-zagging arrows—one next to the 1/30th speed setting and the other next to the 1/60th speed setting. At higher shutter speeds, focal plane bulbs should be used.

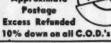
By using a Leicavit attachment which fits on the bottom of the IIIg without any alteration to the camera, the IIIg user will gain a valuable feature often associated solely with the M-3—a rapid film advance system. The Leicavit Rapid Winder is, of course, also available for Leica IIIf's and some earlier model Leicas.

Shutter speeds and lens apertures on the IIIg correlate exactly—each setting (Continued on page 100)

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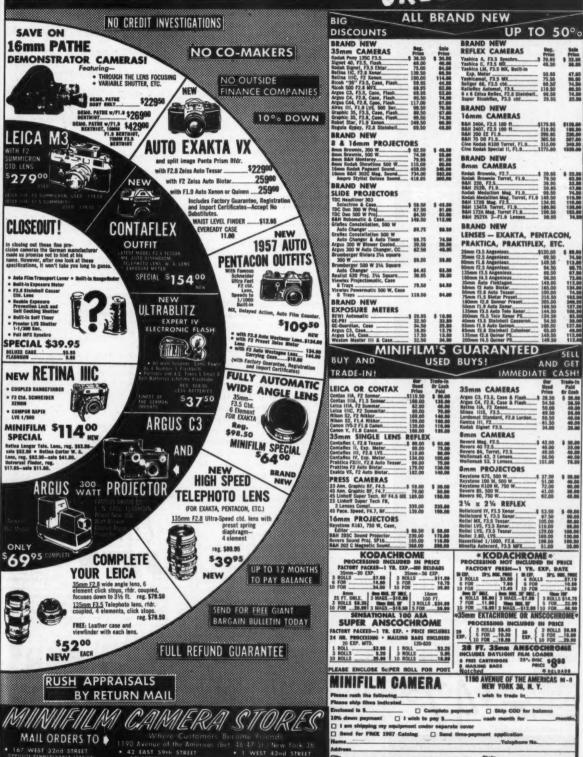
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LEICA IIIg

(Continued from page 96)

of the shutter gives exactly half or double the exposure of the next.

The IIIg retains all the other features of the IIIf including speeds from 1 second to 1/1000th, focal plane shutter, interchangeable lenses, separate viewfinder and rangefinder windows. Interchangeable lenses couple with the rangefinder; there are click stops on the

Several accessories for close-up photography are being designed for use with the IIIg, but are not currently on the

Lenses for the IIIg may be used on the M-3 Leica also, providing the correct lens adapter is used. Leica M-3 lenses, however, cannot be adapted for use with the IIIg.

The IIIg, like other Leica cameras, is a well designed, beautifully machined precision instrument.—TED RUSSELL

CONTAFLEX IV

(Continued from page 55)

angle or telephoto components slipped on in its place.

These components, called Pro-Tessars, join the basic rear cell in forming two distinct f/4 lenses of 35mm and 85mm focal lengths. Unlike the interchangeable front cells of Retina system, the Pro-Tessars do not have to be separately focused, but are integrally coupled to the Contaflex split-image rangefinder and ground glass screen. The slightly more than 60° angle of view of the 35mm Pro-Tessar (priced at \$89), and the 28° angle of the 85mm lens (\$99), are as immediately apparent in the finder as the 45° coverage of the standard 50mm Tessar (see pictures, page 55). Of course, as the viewing lens is also the taking lens, there is no parallax problem-a factor that also holds true when the four Proxar supplementary lenses are mounted on the standard 50mm f/2.8 lens, making it possible to work as close as 61/2 inches from the subject.

To interchange the components, a locking lever is touched and the front cell disengaged with a 30° turn. Then a red dot on the Pro-Tessar is matched with one on the locking lever, and the component inserted in the bayonet mount with another 30° turn, where it clicks firmly into place. The diaphragm apertures apply to all three lens combinations-except, of course, that the two Pro-Tessars do not open wider than f/4. Each Pro-Tessar has its own depth of field scale, which is clearly visible from above with the lens in place.

In testing the lenses it was not surprising to discover that the standard 50mm f/2.8 Tessar is at least as sharp

(Continued on page 104)



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CONTAFLEX IV

(Continued from page 100)

M

wide open as the other two combinations are when stopped down. The Tessar is an excellent lens, of course, its fourelement design being something of an optical classic. To say that the Pro-Tessar combinations, adding 5 elements to the 3 of the rear cell, even approach the basic Tessar in quality-even if only at their smaller apertures-may therefore be something of a compliment.

But it is important to remember that comparisons between lenses of different types and speeds are difficult, and likely to be of relatively little value. The 35mm Pro-Tessar, for example, is sharper wide open than is the 85mm. But it is usually foolish to judge a telephoto lens against anything but another telephoto lens of similar speed and focal length. The crucial factor, always, ought to be the requirements or preferences of the photographer. In the case of the new Contaflex the three lenses made possible by the convertible component design have to be looked at together, according to the needs of the photographer, in normal, wide-angle, and telephoto work. And taken as a whole, the Contaflex Tessar and Pro-Tessar lens system may be said to be distinctly better than adequatealthough the individual combinations may not be as good as the best objectives available for cameras permitting entire lenses to be interchanged.

Focusing operations are the same for the three lenses, the whole lens and shutter assembly being in a helical mount that moves forward or backward as the index fingers of both hands press upon knurled knobs. This seems sturdier and more accurate than the method on the Contaflex I, which is focused by turning the scalloped ring of the front lens. But it requires both hands, instead

The Contaflex, like all single-lens reflexes, does not permit continuous sighting of the subject before, during, and after exposure. When the shutter button is pressed the mirror reflecting the image upon the viewfinder field snaps upward, and the photographer is temporarily "blind." To wind the camera for the next exposure the winding knob must be grasped firmly and vigorously turned.

The Contaflex is a hard camera to wind, even among single-lens reflexes, which commonly have this problem. Turning the film wind knob advances the film, tenses the shutter, sets the automatic diaphragm, drops the mirror into place, and moves a metal capping plate to cover the film plane while the shutter is open for focusing. Some kind of lever winding device might be helpful. According to Zeiss, the noise of operation has been reduced since the Contaflex

(Continued on page 118)



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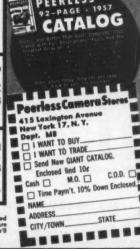
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WHAT A PRO USES

(Continued from page 52)

perspective. This often results in strongly enhanced picture interest. The short focal length of these wide-angles also gives him a tremendous depth of field.

The two 35mm wide-angles are mainly for news work. Morse feels that the 35mm wide-angle is the best type of lens in the world for this kind of photography. In his opinion, the 35mm lens sees pretty much what the eye sees. He sees the 35mm focal length as the most practical, in comparison to the generally accepted normal 50mm lens. He finds that the 35mm renders an image not much smaller, for all practical purposes, than the 50mm, and at the same time gives much greater depth of field. And with the 35mm lens one doesn't worry about the possibility of distortion if the camera is tilted slightly, as with the more extreme wide-angle lenses. Morse utilizes his Sonnar 50mm f/1.5 lens where he needs the last drop of speed he can get.

His approach to long telephoto lenses (he owns Kilar 150mm, 300mm, and 400mm lenses), left center, illustration, page 52, is somewhat different than is usually encountered.

"It's seldom that I use long telephotos for their degree of magnification. I use them to make an editorial point, compress a scene, or to bring distant objects closer to each other."

A recent Morse picture in *Life* magazine of a fireworks display brought the New York skyline right on top of the bursting lights. The right shooting position and the 400mm lens did the trick.

His Sonnar 85mm f/2 and Sonnar 135mm f/4 (middle right, photo page 52) give him magnified images when he needs them.

Lighting Units: Morse always carries three Alligator clamps and reflector floods in the trunk of his car, even though he is a strong advocate of available light. He shoots by available light only when it's good.

"An amateur can muff a shot and forget it," Morse points out, "but a professional can't very well tell his editor to run a blank page because the light wasn't right."

Morse also packs four Stroboflash IV electronic flash units in his car and a Mighty Light in his gadget bag.

For situations requiring unusual amounts of light, church interiors for example, a special Life radio-controlled, 800-watt-second electronic flash unit is available. It operates completely without wire connection to the camera. After the lights are arranged, Morse sends a radio signal from a small transmitter he carries. A radio receiver on the flash unit picks up the signal, closes the circuit, and fires the flash. The freedom

from wires makes the special electronic flash invaluable.

Miscellaneous Equipment: The pistol grip, middle of photograph, page 52, was purchased in Ohio for 50¢, Morse recalls, and is rated as one of his most useful pieces of equipment.

"I mount the Contax D on the grip when shooting with long lenses and just walk around with it." Morse noted.

The tripods on either side of the photo are primarily for long telephoto lenses.

He carries an uncountable number of spare flashcords, extensions, and extra batteries. Here again, Morse says, "A professional must produce—or else—and there's no room in his life for dead batteries, too few extensions or missing flashcords."

Morse prefers Anscochrome for his 35mm color work. He likes the way it can be pushed above its normal exposure index of 32 and feels the grain structure is fine for magazine reproduction. He likes the color quality of Anscochrome, particularly the pastel shades.

Morse has shot only a few rolls of the new Super Anscochrome with an exposure index of 100. Thus, he hasn't come to any conclusions about the film.

AMATEUR HAS LESS

(Continued from page 53)

A Biotar 58mm f/2 lens on his Praktina takes care of many of Bernstein's extreme close-up shots, portraits for example. The lens focuses down to 18 inches and permits him really to get near his subject. He finds that the Biotar gives him a difference in apparent perspective, and likes to use it where he wants to compress the depth of a scene slightly as compared to a 50mm lens.

He uses a Triotar 135mm f/4 where he needs large images and can't move in close enough—at the beach, in crowds.

The Hexacon, his spare camera, is equipped with a Tessar 50mm f/2.8 lens.

Lighting Equipment: He owns a Mighty Light electronic flash he likes to use for bounce flash when making indoor portraits. He owns also a couple of photofloods for copying and similar work.

Miscellaneous Equipment: Aside from an assortment of filters—polarizing, medium yellow and orange, that are employed mainly for landscape and beach shots—Bernstein keeps accessory equipment down to a minimum. His tripod is chiefly a copying aid.

Film: Bernstein recently turned to Ilford FP3 and Kodak Tri-X. Where he needs speed for color work, he employs Anscochrome, but likes to use Kodachrome when conditions or subject permit.—THE END

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STILL PICTURES

(Continued from page 84)

photographs. The stills served as a story board and were invaluable in the final planning of sequences.

Planning and editing in one form or another typifies the production of *The Naked Eye*. In some instances, the script was nothing more than a few notes scratched on the back of an envelope, as in footage of Weegee, the news photographer, on Times Square. Editing concepts were constantly becoming apparent during the shooting and before the film reached the cutting room.

While the director must have a complete visualization of what the film is going to look like, his ideas in concrete terms change as the shooting progresses, according to Stoumen. Often, the relationship of the image movements within a scene to images in another scene only becomes clear while the shooting is going on.

"This sizing up of the relationship of things in a film is similar to a magazine photographer's photographing a story in terms of visual layout, or a writer creating a work of fiction," Stoumen feels.

Stoumen probably used more lap dissolves, fades, irises, montages, and other optical devices in *The Naked Eye* than anyone since D. W. Griffith created his films. All of them were planned beforehand and made in the camera itself.

The optical effects used in *The Naked Eye* create a sense of movement in ordinarily static still photographs. Camera movement, by no means a new device. also plays a part.

But camera movement alone could not solve the problem of what to do with a vertical print—the problem was compounded by the wide screen format of the film.

Vertical photos, horizontal movie

It took persuasion to convince Edward Weston that some of his pictures had to be cropped. One method Stoumen employed is illustrated by the photograph at the bottom of page 85. Black borders were placed around the sides of the print to add horizontal area. The shot was made and then the camera dollied in on photographs like this one to create a new horizontal image.

The camera movement technique for filming still pictures is widely used in movies on the lives of painters and their work. But what to do with a multitude of photographs, some of them taken in the same place? Here, Stoumen resorted to lap dissolves, fading one image into the other.

The final cutting of the film, despite all the planning that went into shooting, wasn't easy.

"When do you know that you're getting close to what you want in the final film?" we asked Stoumen.

He sat quietly for a minute before answering. It wasn't an easy question because the answer almost had to be a summation of his approach to movie making.

"You start getting close when you begin to throw away footage that it hurts you to discard. You must be able to look at film that took long hours, hard work, and a lot of planning to get and admit to yourself that it doesn't fit.

"Sure, we had film that we thought magnificent and that we had to discard. The first cut ran 120 minutes and looked and sounded like a scholarly discourse on the history of photography.

"It meant that the work of men like Edward Steichen, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Man Ray, and Richard Avedon had to be cut from the film, something we tried desperately not to do. The film now has a running time of about 71 minutes.

"Some footage, a sequence of Weegee in Hollywood, for example, had to be dropped because it overbalanced the Weegee portion of the film against the Weston section. We think the cuts we made show the fun and art of photography—the conception with which we started and attempted to adhere to throughout the planning, shooting, and editing.

"Even the arrangement of the sequences of the film had to be changed to some extent. We made one cut that began with the work of Weston. The film lacked continuity and the work of Weston appeared to mean little."

Working in a pyramid

The final cut took the form of a pyramid, according to Stoumen. The base is photography and its meaning to the general camera-owning public. The second step is the sequence on the history of photography. Photo-journalism and the work of Alfred Eisenstaedt and Margaret Bourke-White represent the third step. Next, comes the work and city surroundings of Weegee. Finally, at the top, we have Edward Weston, his life and work.

The pyramid approach was used to prepare the audience for the personal treatment of Weston's life.

Stoumen is adamant on one point. The director must never rely on his cinematographer or his editor for the shooting or cutting of the film. He must know how a shot is to be made and must hold only himself responsible for the final form of the film.

Before creation, you need money

The creative problems alone involved in making The Naked Eye were tremendous—but at the same time Stoumen and the members of Camera Eye Pictures, Inc. fought a battle for financial survival. At first Stoumen attempted to

(Continued on page 110)

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STILL PICTURES

(Continued from page 108)

get financing through normal Hollywood channels-studios, banks, etc.-but no one believed in the idea of the film. Finally, with \$300 advanced by Arch Oboler on the basis of the original story, Camera Eye Pictures, Inc. began to roll slowly. Money came from odd shooting jobs like TV commercials, industrial and educational films. Finally, no less than 18 investors put up the rest of the money-amounts ranging from \$500 to \$10,000. They invested on the basis of a few silent reels that had already been

Available lights the cheapest

Shooting costs were kept to a minimum. The live action was shot on location for the most part, and much of the filming was done by available light.

Shots at Sammy's Bowery Follies in New York were made with a 35mm Camerette movie camera weighing 13 lbs., including magazine and finder. The Camerette finder can be used from almost any angle. This permitted Stoumen to seem to look in one direction, while actually shooting in another.

He and Weegee were chased by police on Times Square, during one shooting session. They just moved to another spot and started all over again.

The Naked Eye is the first film showing total nudity to receive Hollywood Code Administration approval. The decision was reached on one basis-Weston's nudes were art.

Stoumen feels that this may set a precedent for other films-and is happy about it.

"Each case will have to be judged on its own artistic merit and validity, of course. Bad art can be pornographic even though it shows some creative effort." Stoumen feels.

The corporation set up four years ago to make The Naked Eye already has another film ready-the True Story of the Civil War. The film has won an Academy Award. It uses still pictures to tell the story.-MYRON A. MATZKIN



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PRISM REFLEX

(Continued from page 51)

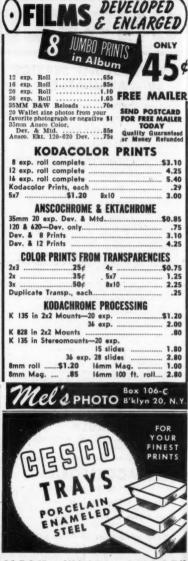
hand hold at slow shutter speeds since the spring-operated mirrors which fly upward just before the shutter is released, jar the camera. This can't be said for the Alpa or Rectaflex since the mirrors of these machines rise slowly as you press the shutter release. On the other hand, some photographers don't like this arrangement either since the image starts disappearing in the prism finder long before the shutter is actually released. Other complaints: only the Exakta and the forthcoming Retina Reflex have rapid-wind levers, although the Praktina does have a spring-wind motor attachment. Not all pentaprisms are of equal quality. The prisms made by Ihagee for the Exakta, for instance, are excellent. But other manufacturers have taken to making prisms for the Exakta, and many of these are not only lacking in brilliance, but are actually out of focus with the camera. Beware. Test the prism (see page 48). Even in camera makes with built-in prisms which are not removable—the Contax S, for instance-you could look through a dozen cameras and find a marked difference in prism brightness and sharpness.

The "forward" lens look

Now a word about lenses. The Contax S camera when it appeared sported a 58mm f/2 Biotar lens focusing down to 18 inches, which today in preset or automatic mount is still one of the leading optics for 35mm prism reflex cameras. Why 58mm? Because that focal length when used in conjunction with the pentaprism produced the desired 1:1 ratio life-sized viewing image. It also had amazingly good definition in the corners of the picture, partially because of its slightly longer-than-normal focal length.

The 58mm f/2 Biotar was the criterion in the field. Other lens manufacturers followed suit. Today just about every "normal" lens for a single-lens reflex focuses as close as 18 inches with somethe 40mm Makro-Kilars-focusing to four and even two inches. In addition, the majority of normal lenses for singlelens reflexes still hover around the 58mm length.

As with all cameras, the eye-level prism reflex cameras have lenses which vary in quality. Some are better than others. However, since the prism permits you to view through the lens of the camera itself, there is a rough lens check you can make without even exposing a film. As you focus with a good lens at maximum opening on a pentaprism camera, it seems to almost snap into sharp focus. Poor lenses never seem to be crisp or brilliant at any one point. If a good lens and a poor one are examined by viewing through the same camera, one after the other, the difference



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between them is sometimes quite marked, and can be detected by the photographer.

Using a familiar object with fairly sharp planes at a moderate camera distance of six feet or less, focus carefully at full opening with a lens of known value on a single plane and note how easily and swiftly you reach the point of maximum sharpness. Now try it with

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the second or test lens of the same manufacturer at the same aperture. If it is harder to focus sharply, it may not deliver pictures as sharp at full opening. Just how sharp a lens is at the extreme edges of the field can't be evaluated visually with a pentaprism camera, because the swinging mirrors are generally critically aligned only at their centers. If your lens seems to be soft at the edge of the viewed field it's more the mirror's fault than the quality of the lens

Lenses that "snap in" sharply and with great brilliance are as a rule excellent lenses. This is only a very rough test, however. Picture taking tests are, of course, the final criteria. But this visual method does prevent you from wasting time on lenses that are obviously poor.

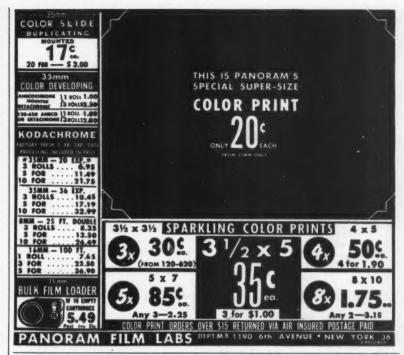
Of course, our tests can only check the camera as of the present moment. Will the eye-level reflexes of today stand the tests for tomorrow? There are Leicas and Contaxes 20 years old still performing day-in, day-out service. Is the prism reflex ready now or do we wait awhile, or forever? These questions you alone can answer. We can only point out that the bandwagon is rolling. But it's a wise photographer who will look before he jumps on it.—THE END

HOW TO DO IT

When the adjustable half of a plastic developing reel becomes worn, there is danger of the two sections slipping



further apart during development, thus allowing the surfaces of the roll-film to touch. If this should happen, uneven development and ruined negatives may result. Until a new reel can be purchased, force the flat end of a toothpick between the inside of the movable part and the core. Done before loading each time, the toothpick will wedge the parts so they cannot move apart.-K. Murray





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ROLLEICORD VA

(Continued from page 76)

change in the middle of a roll). We were particularly impressed with the possibilities (in black-and-white) of making 16 exposures on a roll of 120 film in the Vest Pocket size. It seems an ideal format, even though vertical pictures would be all but impossible to take unless you turn the whole camera on its side. The same difficulty would hold true with the Bantam and 35mm format, which is really quite suitable for color work. If you shoot mostly horizontally framed subjects all is well. But vertical shots such as portraits are pretty awkward.

A word of warning, however, if you plan on doing much work in Bantam and 35mm format. Because of the small film format, the 75mm camera lens acts as a telephoto and limits the picture area. If you like broad scenics, you may find working carefully with tele lens a bit difficult.

Aside from having one camera capable of turning out transparencies and negatives in all popular sizes, the big surprise is the saving the photographer can effect in film. Let's take an example. If you own a 35mm camera and shoot a 20-exposure roll of Anscochrome, the film will cost you about \$1.50. A roll of 120 Anscochrome for the Rolleicord Va. which will produce 24 35mm sized transparencies is only \$1. So you get about four more pictures for about 50 cents less by using the Rolleicord Va instead of a 35mm camera. In addition, of course, you save the price of the 35mm camera. Savings in black-and-white are approximately proportional.

If there's a fly in the Rolleicord ointment right now, it's in the mounting of the 35mm and Bantam slides made on a 120 roll of film. Although Superslide (15/8 x 15/8) service is now pretty well established from coast to coast, no dealers are yet ready to return processed 120 color film in the 35mm or Bantam mounts. This, of course, is only a matter of time. In the meanwhile, cutting a roll apart and mounting each shot yourself may not be too much of a disadvantage if you shoot a moderate amount of color. We wouldn't worry too much about this aspect. There's no doubt that the new Rolleicord Va is a clever step in the right direction; photo finishers are bound to get in step with it.—THE END

WORLD TOUR WINNER NOTES LISTING ERROR

Our attention has been called to an error in the contest listing, page 77, May issue, Modern. Jack Goldsack, winner of the 1956 Saturday Review World Travel Contest, advises that his top prize was a trip around the world for one—not two as was erroneously reported.

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(Continued from page 18)

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(Continued on page 125)



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CONTAFLEX IV

(Continued from page 104)

was first offered. But the working of the shutter, mirror, etc., is still rather loud.

By now, the LVS (light value scale) shutter-diaphragm system is quite familiar, and the idea of built-in exposure meters is once again in style (having been pioneered by Zeiss 20 years ago in the Contax III, the twin-lens Contaflex, and later the Super Ikonta BX). In practice, the meter and LVS system of the Contaflex IV (the model III differs only in not having the meter) operate with commendable simplicity. Instead of giving readings in terms of separately determined lens apertures and shutter speeds, the meter establishes an LVS number, in a scale of 2 to 18. A meter reading of 12, for example, transferred to the LVS guide ring on the shutter, fixes the following settings: f/2.8 at 1/500th; f/4 at 1/250th; f/5.6 at 1/125th; f/8 at 1/60th; f/11 at 1/30th; f/16 at 1/15th; and f/22 at 1/8th. Which setting is chosen depends upon such considerations as depth of field, subject movement, etc. But the ratio of lens opening to shutter speed remains uniform for the particular lighting situation. The meter is calibrated for both the ASA and DIN systems of film guide numbers, having settings from 5 to 650 ASA. An excellent characteristic of the shutter is that it

may be left wound or unwound without damage, as it is really actuated only when the release is pressed.

Professionals and advanced amateurs may feel the LVS system to be unnecessary, or awkward at first. But the important consideration is that it really doesn't interfere with any individual method of determining exposure—and may often actually be helpful.

Having the meter incorporated in the camera is either a real convenience, or a dubious advantage, depending upon the photographer's preference. The meter was discovered to be fairly accurate compared with larger meters, except in very dim light-or when pointed directly downward, when the needle on this particular camera showed a tendency to stick. Any exposure meter, of course, is best used as a guide or advisory instrument, with the photographer deciding upon exposure according to factors such as processing, tone or color rendition, etc., which he can think about and the meter cannot.

A self timer, and M and X flash synchronization are incorporated in the shutter of the Contaflexes III and IV, as in the Contaflex I. A locking device has been added, however, to keep the synchronization setting from being inadvertently changed. And the flash contact is no longer recessed, but projects from the outer rim of the shutter, permitting the use of a variety of slip-on connectors.

The self timer was clocked at 11 seconds, and may be used with flash, but at the X-delay setting only.

The Contaffex continues the Contax method of loading and rewinding. The entire back slips off when two locking keys are turned. The film take-up spool is not fixed, as in the majority of 35mm cameras. This permits the use of cassettes, which obviate rewinding, and make possible the removal of film from the camera after any number of exposures. In rewinding ordinary commercial film cartridges, care must be taken to keep the release button completely depressed, or the end of the film will appear to have been reached too soon.

Sturdy construction

The generally sturdy construction of the Contaflex I made it a comparatively heavy camera, weighing 11/2 lbs. with a film cartridge. The Contaflex IV is some 5 oz. heavier-which isn't much, considering the additional features which are incorporated. The two Pro-Tessars, of course, add considerably to the total weight and bulk-as does any accessory for any camera. The important thing, however, is what they add to the scope and efficiency of the new Contaflexes, the first single-lens reflexes with between-the-lens shutters and interchangeable optical components for normal, wide-angle, telephoto, and stereo photography.—THE END

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(Continued from page 115)

Eastman Kodak announces Ready-Mounts for super-size slides shot on 127. 620, or 120 color transparency film. The mounts have a 1½ x 1½ opening and are made of cardboard. They are supplied flat and unsealed in quantities of 100, with a film cutting guide included in the package. Price is \$1.50 per hundred. For additional information, write: Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y.

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36 frame 35mm or 12 frame 120 set of negatives may be proofed on one 8 x 10 sheet of paper. The printer consists of a Plexiglas plate and metal base. A black felt pad holds the film and paper firmly. Paper is placed in the proofer emulsion side up. Negative strips are placed on the paper. Clips hold paper and negatives in place. The glass plate is closed. A light source from above is used to make the exposure. The proof printer can also be used with sheet film up to 8 x 10 size, and as a borderless easel. Price of the proof printer is \$9.95 (\$10.50 west of the Mississippi). For additional information, write: mation, write: HUDSON PHOTOGRAPHIC INDUSTRIES, INC.

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FR Battery Charger

A new battery charger has been introduced by FR to go along with their recently announced D-cell rechargeable electronic flash battery. The recharger is plugged into ordinary house current and the D-cell batteries rejuvenated. Batteries cannot be overcharged. Price of the FR recharger is \$7.95. Battery price is 25c each. For additional information, write: mation, write:



INDEX OF DISPLAY ADVERTISERS — AUGUST 1957

ADVERTISER	PAGE	NO.
ALLIED IMPEX AMERICAN CAMERA EXCH. AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAL AMERICAN SPEEDLIGHT CORP. AMPHOTO_38, 40, 92, 104, 112, 11 119, 120, 121,	PHY	104 22 8,
ASTRA FILM_ ATKINSON COLORAWON FILMS	110	111
BASS, INC. ALFRED BASS CAMERA COMPANY BERNDY-BACH, INC BESSELER COMPANY, CHARLES BRAUN BROADWAY CAMERA COMPANY BROOKS INSTITUTE OF PHOTOGRA BURLEIGH BROOKS, INC.	(PHY	26 34 101 28
CAMERA IMPORT CORPORATION CANON CAMERA COMPANY, INC CENTRAL CAMERA COMPANY CHIYODA-KOGAKU SEIKO CO., LTD. COLUMBIAN ENAMELING	1	2, 13 115 4, 25 112
DA-LITE SCREEN CO., INC DAVIDSON MFG. CO. DOWLING'S FIFTH AVENUE, INC. DUVAL SCHOOL	31, 3	2, 33 114
EASTMAN KODAK COMPANYC ELGEET OPTICAL CO., INC EXAKTA CAMERA COMPANY	over IV, 8	2, 83 30 3, 27
FASCOLOR FEDERAL MFG. & ENG. CO FOTOSHOP		-313
GOERZ, C. P. AMERICAN OFFICAL GOLDEN GATE COLOR PRINTS GRAND CENTRAL CAMERA HABER & FINK HEILAND DIV., MINNEAPOLIS-HON		113
KALIMAR, INC	2	114 2, 36
LEITZ, INC., E. LIDO FILM SERVICE		-8, 9 -114 -104

ADVERTISER	PAGE NO.
MARSHALL MFG. CO., INC., JOHN G. MEL'S PHOTO- MINIFILM CAMERA EXCHANGE MODERN PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK STO	98, 99 RE 37
NATIONAL CAMERA REPAIR SCHOOL NATIONAL PHOTO LASS. NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF PHOTOGR NIKON, INC. NUCLEAR PRODUCTS COMPANY	22, 36, 104 APHY 15
OLDEN CAMERA & LENS CO. OLYMPUS OFTICAL COMPANY OFTICS MANUFACTURING CO	10
PANORAM FILM LABS. PEERLESS CAMERA STORES. PHOTO WHIZ POLAROID CORPORATION. POPULAR PHOTO STORES.	115
RASINOVITCH PHOTOGRAPHY WORK RAY-VOGUE SCHOOLS RELIANT PHOTO SERVICE REVERE CAMERA CO. RIVEN OPTICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD.	106
SAMOCA CAMERA COMPANY SAWYERS, INC. ECHOOL OF MODERN PHOTOGRAPHY ECTRIC COMPANY SOLAR CINE PROQUETS, INC. SPIRATORS, INC. SPIR	120 120 120 108
TECHNICOLOR CORPORATION	36
UNIVERSITY CAMERA STORES	100
VIEWLEX, INC.	
WALL ST. CAMERA EXCHANGE. WESTON ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENT WILLOUGHBY'S	CORP 36
YASHIMA OPTICAL COMPANY	
ZEISS, INC., CARL	.11, 18, 35, 42

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Feature of MUNTH

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